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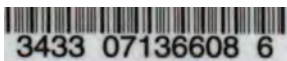
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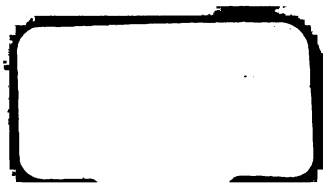
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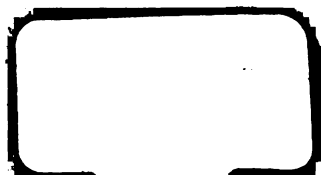


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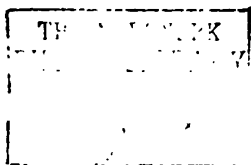






Exeter  
Jenkins  
CO









THE GATEWAY OF ROUGEMONT CASTLE,  
*EXETER.*

THE  
HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
**CITY OF EXETER,**  
AND ITS  
**ENVIRONS,**  
ANCIENT AND MODERN,  
CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL: r L

Comprising  
The RELIGION, and IDOLATROUS SUPERSTITION of the BRITONS,  
SAXONS and DANES;

*The Rise and Progress of Christianity in these Western Counties;*

WITH

A CATALOGUE OF THE BISHOPS,

From the first erecting this County into a *Diocese*, to the present Era.

COLLECTED FROM THE MOST APPROVED HISTORIANS.

*Also, a General and Parochial*

**SURVEY AND DESCRIPTION**

OF

*All the Churches, Places of Divine Worship, public  
Buildings, Institutions, Antiquities, present  
Government, Prospects, &c.*

AND

A LIST of MAYORS & BAILIFFS, to the Close of the Eighteenth Century.

---

By **ALEXANDER JENKINS.**

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ILLUSTRATED

With a correct Map of the City and Neighbourhood, a View of Rougemont  
Castle Gateway, and several ancient Plans and Miscellaneous Plates.

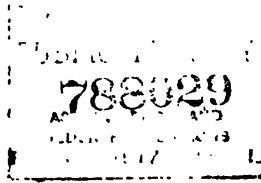
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**EXETER,**

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY P. HEDGELAND, HIGH-STREET;

*Also, by Messrs. Scatcherd & Letterman; Longman, Hurst, Rees & Grime;  
Crosby & Co. and J. Manman, London.*

1806. -



NOV 1943  
ALBANY  
N.Y.

*my*

# DEDICATION.

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TO

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THOMAS FLOUD, ESQ.

(Mayor in 1802,)

THE

RECORDER, ALDERMEN AND COMMON-COUNCIL

OF THE

CITY of EXETER.

GENTLEMEN,

*Permit me to inscribe to you the following sheets, containing the History and Topographical Description of the City of Exeter, intended to perpetuate to posterity its ancient and present state.*

*Your predecessors in office, in conjunction with their fellow citizens, having, from the remotest ages, distinguished themselves in supporting the liberties and freedom of this happy and envied nation, by bravely defending the City committed to their charge, against foreign invaders and domestic enemies, which our ancient monarchs, in return for their distinguished loyalty, have rewarded, by conferring on them great immunities and exclusive privileges, confirmed by succeeding charters.*

*I trust and hope, that you Gentlemen, and your successors, as guardians for your fellow citizens, will be stimulated by their example, and carefully convey*

## DEDICATION.

*them down unsullied to the latest generations.—And that the many great and charitable donations entrusted to your care, recorded in the following sheets, may be fulfilled according to the will and intentions of their pious donors.—That party dissensions may for ever cease, and brotherly love and christian charity unite all denominations in one fold—the true fold of our blessed redeemer, Jesus Christ.*

*Likewise, permit me to return my most grateful thanks to those Gentlemen of your body, who have so kindly assisted me in the course of my labours, in bringing forward this work to public view; particularly Thomas Floud, Esq. whose unremitting kindness and assistance I most gratefully acknowledge; and may his disinterested conduct, whilst chief magistrate of this City, be followed by his successors in that important trust, that the Augean stable may be thoroughly cleansed, and the remaining nuisances removed, so that this City, happily situated both for health and pleasure, and capable of the greatest improvements, may increase in population and opulence.*

*I have the honor to be,*

*With the greatest respect,*

GENTLEMEN,

*Your most dutiful and humble servant,*

ALEXANDER JENKINS.

## **PREFACE.**

**THE** following sheets, compiled at different times, and the labour of many vacant hours, when want of employment in my profession, and the cares of a numerous family left me any leisure time, is, with the greatest timidity, submitted to the perusal of the public; and I must acknowledge, that my small abilities and confined education are very unequal to such an undertaking, more particularly at an advanced period of life, to appear in print before the awful tribunal of a discerning public.

Having, from my earliest age, a strong propensity to the study of the antiquities and remains of former ages; by the help of the few authors on those subjects, which my confined circumstances enabled me to peruse, I daily grew more fond of employing my leisure hours in the pleasing task of searching into the history and antiquities of this happy and favored island, and particularly of this my native City; not with any design of publishing them, but merely for my own amusement, expecting some abler pen would present to the world, the history and ancient state of this City. The taste for local history being so prevalent in this present age, that folio volumes have been published, describing places of much less historic note.

In the course of the work, I have endeavoured to elucidate the ancient state of Exeter, with the progressive rise of its trades and manufactures, from the most improved histories and manuscript accounts that I have had an opportunity of procuring; and that the civil might not be blended or interfere with the ecclesiastical history, I have divided them into separate portions: the same plan has been observed in the descriptive part, in relation to the many benefactions to the poor, general as well as parochial.

## Preface.

If any errors or omissions appear to able antiquarians and discerning critics, I sincerely crave their pardon, and declare it to be not for want of exertions to gain the best information, but owing to the disappointments I have met therein, which were much greater than I expected.

Strict impartiality has been observed in the following sheets; although my intention was never to offend, yet my resolution has been, not to gratify the prejudice of any person, party or sect. I must acknowledge, that most of the charitable donations are the bounty of former times; yet, for want of timely information, the PHILANTHROPY of the PRESENT AGE has not been mentioned, in their proper places.

I am here bound in duty to notice some institutions of singular benefit to mankind, lately established in this City; of which the *Humane Society*, for recovering persons apparently drowned, is one very deserving of notice, by which many individuals have been preserved from an untimely death, and restored to their afflicted relatives and friends. The *Vaccine Society*, for inoculation with the cow-pox, has been lately established, which is a discovery of the greatest importance to the human race, in preventing the dreadful effects and spreading of that fatal malady the small-pox. Another charitable institution, arose from the well-timed bounty of a *Society of Ladies* of the first distinction, in this city and neighbourhood, for the relief of *indigent married women* in the time of child-birth, who are relieved with medical assistance, and other conveniencies according to their wants. Likewise, I ought not to omit a society, as yet but little known, the members of which are *followers of the late Rev. John Wesley*, who visit and grant immediate relief to all friendless strangers, who are sick and in distress within this City. To these might be added, (were I at liberty to mention their names,) the *private charities of many individuals, of both sexes*, whose hearts are always open to the distresses of their fellow citizens, in clothing the naked, relieving the sick, and comforting the unhappy pri-

## *Preface.*

soner, while in the dreary and gloomy cell: may future generations be stimulated, by their pious example, to acts of universal charity and benevolence.

Before I conclude, permit me to return my most grateful thanks to those Gentlemen who have so kindly assisted me with their advice and correction in the course of my labours, and hope, that if my poor endeavours do not answer their expectation, it will, at least, afford them some information and amusement.

The major part of the plates, if not executed in the masterly stile of modern publications, will commemorate to posterity the places they are intended to represent; therefore I humbly trust, that a generous public will overlook their faults. I hope my readers will also pardon the many typographical errors which have unfortunately happened in the compilation, which I have endeavoured to rectify by an errata.

..  
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THE AUTHOR.





# INTRODUCTION.

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EXETER, the Capital of *Devonshire*, is a City of great *Antiquity* and *Fame*, and, to use the words of an author of the last century,† “REMARK-  
“ABLE FOR ITS LOYALTY AND ZEAL FOR MON-  
“ARCHY, AMIDST ALL REVOLUTIONS:” it is situated about eight miles North of the British Channel, in Latitude 50°.44' North, and Longitude 3°.30' West from London.

The City and Suburbs, including the adjoining parishes of St. Thomas and St. Leonard, which are part of the county of *Devon*, are nearly two miles in length, and a mile and a quarter in breadth, where the buildings are contiguous; and contain about 3,276 houses, and 21,924 inhabitants:\* the City is divided into four Wards or Hundreds, in which are nineteen Parishes and three Precincts, which are extra-parochial. A Cathedral; eighteen Parish Churches; three Presbyterian, one Anabaptist, one Quaker, and two Methodist Meeting-Houses; a Roman Catholic Chapel; and a Jew's Synagogue; all which, together with the other public buildings, will be fully described in their proper places.

The pleasant site of the City, on the declivity of a hill open to the south and west, enriched with beauti-

† Ogilby.

\* As it would be impracticable to number the inhabitants precisely, (it having been several times attempted without success,) I have endeavoured to calculate them according to the rules laid down by Sir Wm. Petty, in his discourse on political arithmetic, and allowing seven persons for every inhabited house, whoever is acquainted with the City, and considers the numbers of families which are crowded together in single houses, in the back streets and lanes, will, I hope, think with me, that I have rather under, than over-rated them. In the year 1800, the legislature ordered a general account to be taken of the number of inhabitants and houses throughout the kingdom, when the parochial returns for this City (exclusive of the parishes of St. Thomas and St. Leonard,) were 2836 houses; inhabited by 3947 families; containing 7304 males, and 10,084 females; in all 17,388 inhabitants. But as this return was made at the height of a long and bloody war, when the staple trade of this City (the woollen manufactory,) was at its lowest ebb, and great numbers of its male inhabitants, serving their country in his Majesty's fleets and armies, and others obliged to seek for labour at distant places, occasioned the great disproportion between the number of males and females, which, according to their births, are nearly equal; and according to the former calculation, would make this City and County to contain 20,052 souls.

## INTRODUCTION.

ful views of the surrounding country, where undulating hills, vales, woods and water, intermixed with churches, villages and gentlemens' seats, terminated by the brown and lofty heights of Haldon, &c. is truly picturesque, and attracts the notice of strangers.

The river *Exe* is navigable for vessels of 150 tons burthen, up to the City, by a canal cut through the marshes, and by the help of sluices or locks, they are towed up to the quay. The tide anciently flowed beyond the City; but the navigation was ruined by one of the Earls of *Devon*, from a malicious pique for a pretended insult done him, (which circumstance will be discussed hereafter;) and there is great reason to believe, that the tide once covered all the marshes and low grounds from the City to *Cowick*, as its name seems to express:† for the whole strata of the ground between, appears to be formed of soft clay and river gravel in alternate layers; and further, the situation of the water port, (still plainly to be seen in the City wall, at the bottom of *Rock-lane*,) together with ancient traditions, which inform us, that ships and boats were admitted, by the tide, into the City through the said port, seem to strengthen greatly the conjecture, if we can doubt the veracity of an ancient historian, *William of Malmesbury*, who says, that “the fleet of King *Ethelred* being defeated “in the year 1001, by the Danes, a residue took refuge within the walls of *Excester*.”‡

The City has been greatly improved of late years by new buildings, and is plentifully supplied with water; some from wells, and some, brought through leaden pipes, from springs collected together, about half a mile from the City. The river water, by

† *Ick* is a British word, and signifies a river creek, i. e. oow creek or watering place. (*Borlase's Vocabulary*.)

‡ Other reasons might be given to strengthen the former hypothesis, but I shall only mention one more by way of note; a few years since, in digging for the foundation of an Ice-house, at the bottom of the *Fryars*, after having cut through the common meat earth, a bed of hard clay was found, then river gravel, at twelve feet deep, rubbish mixed with oyster and cockle shells, then river gravel again, and at sixteen feet deep, was found the half of an horse shoe, much rusted and injured by length of time, and which is now in the possession of Mr. *Drewe*, (late of *Exeter*, but now of *Topsham*.) I do not easily acquiesce with improbabilities, but I have heard it asserted, that an anchor has been dug up in the marsh near *Cowley Bridge*.

## INTRODUCTION.

means of an engine, is forced through wooden pipes into most parts of the City, (notwithstanding its elevated situation,) and each inhabitant may be supplied with it at a certain rate per annum.

The wholesomeness of the water, salubrity of the air, pleasantness of the situation, and plenty of the markets, have occasioned the City to be much noticed by our ancient writers:—*William of Malmesbury*, who lived in the reign of King Stephen, and wrote his history, A. D. 1154, speaks thus of it, “by reason of its stateliness, the wealth of its citizens, and the great resort of strangers, it so abounds with all kinds of merchandize, that nothing is wanting that can be reckoned useful, or necessary.” *Leland* also, who wrote his itinerary in the reign of Henry the Eighth, calls it “a pleasant and beautiful City, strongly fortified both by nature and art, full of inhabitants, and abounding in all the necessities of life.

It is impossible, at this distance of time, to fix the Era of its first foundation; but its *British* names will sufficiently testify, that it was a City of note even with the ancient Britons.

The inhabitants of Devon and Cornwall were the *Danmonii*, a people differing in their manners and customs from the other tribes of the *Britons*, and are supposed by many authors,\* both ancient and modern, to be *Aboorigines*, and to have migrated from *Armenia*, in the greater *Asia*, not long after the confusion of tongues at *Babel*.

It is sufficiently clear, that the *Danmonii* were not ignorant of agriculture and commerce, from the trade they carried on, with their tin, and other commodities, with the *Phœnician*, *Carthaginian* and *Greek* merchants, and after them, with the *Gauls* and *Romans*; this is fully mentioned by *Herodotus*, *Polybius*, *Strabo*, and other authors.

That Tin was more abundant in *Devon* than *Cornwall*, is clearly demonstrated, by the farming of the coinage in the reign of King John, when that of

\* Bishop Gibson's Saxon Chronicle, printed at Oxford, 1692, (the Saxon Chronicle was written by a Monk of Lincoln, sometime after the conquest,) says, that the original inhabitants of Devon and Cornwall came from Armenia.

## INTRODUCTION.

*Devon*, was farmed for £.100 while that of *Ci* produced only 100 marks; and as the great of the tin was found in *Dartmoor* and its bourhood, at no very great distance from *Ea* may naturally be concluded, that the neight country must have been very populous; and *Danmonii*, having a mercantile intercourse w *Phœnicians* and *Greeks*, learned from the principles of mechanics and building, as well a arts: to say nothing of the colonies, which, acc to their custom, they settled in most place traded to, and therefore it cannot be doubted, the many Phœnician and Greek words mixed *British* language,) that they settled a colony i part of the island.†

The inhabitants of *Devon*, therefore, certain their cities and towns;|| and the name of Pen- (a British name for *Exeter*,) which signifies the or chief city, plainly points out the capital o *Danmonii*; and *Caer-esk*, the city on the w *Caer-ruth*,\* the city on the red soil; and *Penhulge* the prosperous chief town in the wood; stro prove, that *Exeter* must have been a City of note, even in the most early ages.

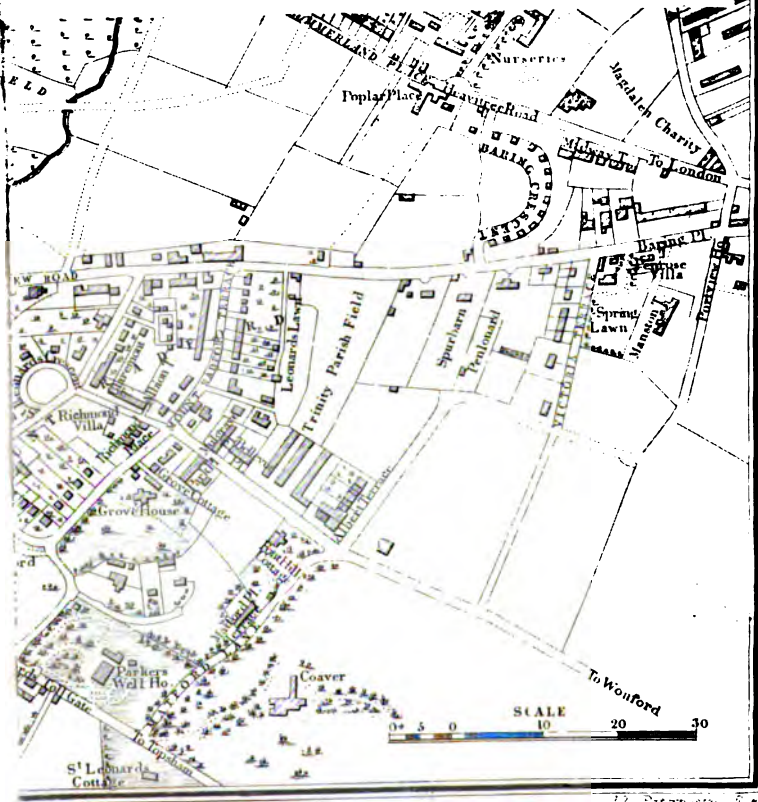
† Richard of Cirencester, who wrote a Chronicle in the fourt century, places the first colony in the S. W. part of *Devon*, about 13000, and that a colony of the Belgæ from *Gallia*, about A. M. 1 arrived in Britain, and possessed themselves of *Kent*, *Sussex*, *H* shire, and *Devonshire*. Mr. Whitaker, in his history of *Manche* informs us, that after the Belgæ had been thus settled 250 ; *Divitiacus* came over from *Gaul*, and brought a large reinforcement o former, and subdued the remainder of the west part of Britain.

|| To strengthen this conjecture, it must be remarked, that an the British Coins found at *Carnbre*, in *Cornwall*, as described by *Borlase*, that of No. 12 has evidently a plan of a town or city on it; whoever carefully examines it, will find it a near resemblance of *moes Exeter*.

§ *Caer*, in the Welsh language, signifies a City; and at this day, ( call *Jerusalem*, *Caer-salem*; *Paris*, *Caer-Paris*; *Rome*, *Caer-Ruffia*; *Carthage* was called in the Phœnician language, *Caer-theia*, that is new City. (*Cambden*, page 30.)

\* According to the idiom of the British language, it should be *Ca rydh*, and *Caer-pen-huil-gnit*.





SCALE  
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THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
**CITY OF EXETER;**  
ANCIENT AND MODERN.

---

CHAPTER I.

*From the Invasion of the Romans to the Norman Conquest.*

**JULIUS CÆSAR** in his first expedition into Britain CHAP. I.  
A. C. 54, describes the British towns, as mere recesses Before  
in the woods, fortified with trunks of trees, and great Christ 54.  
banks of earth, to which they fled in times of danger, as a Cæsar's  
security for themselves, families, and cattle; but Cæsar was Commentary.  
ignorant of the *Danmonii*, or their towns, his actions in Bri-  
tain being confined to Kent, and the adjoining counties; and  
he himself confesses, that all he knew of the inland and de-  
tached inhabitants of the Island was from the *Gaulish* mer-  
chants, and even *they* acknowledged that they knew nothing  
of the interior parts of the country, but from hear-say only.

Hence, any pretension to determine at what time to date the  
foundation of Exeter, would be mere presumption; and as  
we have no authority but conjecture, and dark traditions,  
probability only can be offered.

It is true, the inhabitants of *Holcomb-burnell* have an idle Ancient  
tradition, that the *Britons* first began to build a City, on a tradition.  
common near their village, for their Capital, but finding great  
inconveniences from the want of water, they removed to the  
present scite of Exeter, nay they shew an old military work  
there as the ancient City.

A circumstance, however, highly in favour of its antiqui-  
ty, is the great number of Roman coins which have been, and  
still are, discovered by digging in the City and its neighbour-  
hood; and that all the ancient roads meet in it, as a central  
situation.\*

A

And

\* Some *Phœnician* coins (as conjectured) were, some years since, dis-  
covered at Teignmouth; and, I have been informed, that one of the  
same sort has been found in Exeter; but after all possible enquiry, I  
could never find into whose possession it had got.



## CHAP. I.

And now to leave the dark ages of conjecture only, we shall come to an Era, where such historians who have escaped the ravages of time, will enlighten our paths, and lead us to those historic facts which may be depended upon.

A. M.  
3946.

Julius Cæsar's invasion.

Anno Mundi 3946, according to *Richard of Cirencester* (although *Speed* places the date 3873) and 54 years before the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, *Julius Cæsar* having subdued all *Gaul*, invaded *Britain*, incited thereto, according to some authors, by a desire to revenge on the Britons their having sent succours to the *Veneti*, a people of *Armorica* (now *Bretagne*) in *France*, landed, after an obstinate resistance from the *Britons*, on the coast of *Kent*; supposed to be the beach between *Deal* and *Dover*.

The *Britons* being divided into many petty sovereignties, united their forces under *Cassibelaunus*, King of the *Trinobantes* † *Theomantius*, his Son, being at that time Prince of the *Danmonii* and *Cæsar*, after gaining a few disputed battles, sailed back to *Gallia*.

The next year, *Cæsar* having collected a more numerous army and navy, again invaded *Britain*, and landed near the same place, when he was a second time bravely opposed: but *Cassibelaunus* being deserted by his allies, submitted to *Cæsar*, who once more returned back to *Gallia*, and being satisfied with receiving hostages from the neighbouring states, and a promise of tribute (which, in all probability was never paid) left the authority of the Romans, more nominal than real, in this Island.‡

I have so far digressed from what materially concerns the City of *Exeter*, in order to confute the many idle traditions and common stories, that every ancient castle, or ruinous tower was built by *Julius Cæsar*, (as it is often ignorantly said of the *Castle of Exeter*) when, from the most authentic historians, his short stay in this Island would not allow him time sufficient to build castles, or any other works, saving those that were necessary for his own security, the fortifying of his camps: he being continually harrassed by armed bodies of the *Britons*, and *Exeter* at too great a distance from the field of action.

The

† The Inhabitants of *Essex*.

‡ Some authors are of opinion, he only frightened the Britons by a successful battle, or as *Lucan* says

“*Territa quæsitis ostendit terga Britannis.*”

Fled from the Britons whom his arms had sought.

And *Tacitus* says, he did not conquer Britain, but only shewed it to the Romans.

The *Romans* made no attempt on the *Britons* until A. D. 43, near a century after *Cæsar*; when the Emperor *Claudius* sent *Aulus Plautius*, his General into Britain, and through the dissensions among the *Britons* themselves, some provinces were subdued, and *Claudius* himself soon after coming over to *Britain*, was for a long time bravely opposed by *Cunobeline*, King of the *Trinobantes*, and after his death, by his Sons, *Caractacus* King of the *Silures* § and *Togodumnus* King of the *Danmonii*: but, the death of *Togodumnus*, in this war, together with the defeat and captivity of *Caractacus*, completed the triumph of the *Romans*, and rivetted the fetters of the *Britons*. Soon after, by the repeated victories of *Vespasian*, and *Julius Agricola*, in the Reign of the Emperor *Domitian*, the whole of South Britain was reduced into a Roman Province.

That the City of *Exeter* was of great note in the time of the Roman Government, must be allowed; whether we consider it as the capital City of the *Danmonii*, its strong and advantageous situation for defence against the revolts of a recently conquered people, naturally stubborn, and detesting a foreign yoke: or its convenient situation for commerce (on the banks of a navigable river) and its vicinity to the *Tin* district, which was then a great branch of trade in these Western provinces; therefore, from all these concurrent circumstances, it may naturally be concluded that the *Romans* (civilized as they were at this period) would not neglect the many advantages that might occur to themselves by garrisoning it, not only to defend their conquests, but to protect their trade.

Yet, notwithstanding all probable conjectures, history is quite silent, nor is *Isca* once mentioned by the *Roman* historians,\* except in the Itinerary of *Antonine*, who travelled through Britain, in the reign of *Antoninus Pius*, A. D. 140; and whose journey from *Callea* to *Isca Dum nunniorum*, I shall here transcribe from *Cambden*.

Iter 15.

"A *Callea* . . . . . now Wallingford in Berkshire

"*Isca Dum nunniorum* . . . . . Exeter

"M. P. CXXXVI. Sic

*Vindomi* . . . . . M. P. XV now Silchester, Hants

*Venta Belgarum* . . . . . M. P. XXI . . Winchester

*Brige* . . . . . M. P. XI . . Broughton, Hants

*Sorbiodon* . . . . . M. P. VIII . . Old Sarum

*Vindocladia* . . . . . M. P. XII . . Shaftesbury

*Durnovaria* . . . . . M. P. IX . . Dorchester

*Mori duno* . . . . . M. P. XXXVI Seaton in Devonshire

*Isca Dum nunniorum* . M. P. XV . . Exeter.

A 2

*Ptolomy*

§ People of South Wales.

\* The Chronicle of the Cathedral indeed says, that *Exeter* was be-

CHAP. I.

A. D.

43.

Exeter of  
note in the  
time of the  
Romans.

A. D.  
140.

CHAP. I.

*Ptolemy of Alexandria*, who wrote a system of Geography in the reign of the Emperor *Adrian*, about A. D. 144, has given the Latitude and Longitude of the mouth of the river *Ere* and City of *Exeter* according to the Geography of the age he lived in, which places the whole of the *South of Britain* too far North by two or three degrees

Lat. Lon.

Mouth of the River *Isca*... 52°.20' .. 17°.00'

*Isca*... 52.45 .. 17.30

Roman  
Coins &c.

The great number of Roman Coins, and other antiquities† that have been discovered in this City, and its neighbourhood, and its situation on the great Roman, or military road; ‡ which first began at *Totness*, passing over *Haldon* (where some vestiges are still remaining) through *Exeter*, over the Ford below the old Bridge (which still bears the name of the old Ford,) and was continued on through *Somersetshire* to *Lincoln*, are convincing proofs that it was a settlement, if not colony,

*Matthew of Westminster* sieged by the Emperor *Vespasian* A. D. 49, and that *Arviragus*, then King of the Britons, compelled him to raise the siege.

† So numerous have been the Roman coins discovered in this City, particularly in the late alterations in the Castle, that want of room will not allow a full description. They are mostly of the latter Emperors; a gold one of *Nero*, two brass ones of *Julius Cæsar*, and two base silver ones of *Carausius*, are the best preserved. Some years since, in digging for the foundation of a house, the upper end of *Musgrave's Alley*, (now occupied by Mr. *Eales*, Attorney) a colossal head of the Empress *Julia Donna*, and an ancient brass lamp were found, supposed (from a crescent being embossed upon it) to have belonged to a temple of *Diana*, from whence some conjectures are formed that a temple dedicated to that Goddess once stood near the spot. Roman coins also, and bones of animals have been discovered in digging the ground on *St David's hill*; and at Mr. *Upham's* near *Broad-gate*, in enlarging a cellar, was lately found a Niche walled up, in which were several brass Pagan deities in good preservation: and part of a tessalated pavement.

‡ Besides this road which was termed the *Fosse-way*, another military way namely *Ikeneld-street*, entered this City, through *Dorchester* and *Seaton* from the East; these roads probably again divided; one taking its course over the old Ford, through *Kenton*, (where as well as on *Haldon*, visible remains of it are still to be perceived) to *Totness* as before related; and as the Romans had several stations, to the West of *Totness*, there cannot be the least doubt of its being continued to *Tamara*, (now *Ta-merton-foliot*;) and from thence to *Uxella* (either *Grampound*, or *Lost-withiel*) and *Voluba*, at, or near *Falmouth* in *Cornwall*. The other road, crossed the *Ere* near *Goulds-bays*, passing up *Greenway-lane*, was continued to *Oakhampton*, and from thence to the promontory of *Hercules*, (now *Hartland Point*.) Besides those roads, there were several vicinal ways, that branched either from, or into them, particularly one that proceeded from *Longbrooke-street* over *Stoke-hill*, (by the ancient Camp) which crossed the river near *Pines-house*; from this there was another branch, by the present *Mary-pole*, and *Black-boy lanes* communicating with the two great roads near *Heavitree*.

colony, of the *Romans*; and if some authors are to be credited, that the *Romans* called it *Augusta* (a name they never gave but to their colonies) there can be no doubt that *Exeter* was a colony of that people.

About a mile from the City, on *Stoke-hill*, are some remains of an ancient camp evidently *Roman*; the *Graff* and *Fosse* in some places very visible; and on *Woodbury-hill*, about six miles South East, is a large intrenchment, which must anciently have been a very strong post; but, whether it was a *Roman* or *British* work, cannot be determined.

In the vicinity of *Exeter* are many *Tumuli*, or, as they are commonly called, Barrows, composed of earth and stones, which were evidently ancient burial places: between *Columpton* and *Honiton* on *Kentemoor*, are two large Barrows, many on *East-hill* near *Ottery St. Mary*, and on *Haldon* a great number, particularly on the side towards *Kenn*, composed, for the most part, of flinty stones.

Ancient  
Tumuli  
near Exeter

In the year 1773, some labourers, digging in one of those Barrows for flints to repair the road leading from *Kensford* to *Newton Bushel*, discovered an *Urn* at the depth of four feet from the top of the barrow, and sunk near six inches in the solid earth; it consisted of earthen-ware evidently baked, was covered with a flat stone about five inches thick, and contained a quantity of greasy ashes (which smelled like soot) and fragments of burnt bones; the workmen, thinking they had found a treasure, eagerly broke it in pieces: the *Urn* was about fourteen inches in height, and ten inches in diameter, at its most bulging part.

A further search being made in the same *Tumulus*, another *Urn* was discovered at fourteen feet distance from the spot where the first was found; and, twelve feet from the second, a third; each containing a quantity of greasy ashes, and burnt bones plainly human: these *Urns* were so much decayed through length of time, that they quickly fell to pieces on being handled: they were made of a dark greyish clay, found in many parts of *Haldon*, and ornamented with several kinds of figures, before they were burnt. §

The

§ *Sir Lawrence Park, Bart.* discovered *Urns* with *Roman* coins, in one of the Barrows on the northern part of *Haldon*, specimens of which are now in my possession; they are small, brass, of Emperor *Gallienus*, *Victorinus*, one of the 19, (or as they are called 30 tyrants, during *Gallienus'* reign,) the usurper in Britain, and of *Probus*. Whether these coins were originally placed there when the *Tumulus* was formed, or since that period deposited by way of security, can only be conjectured: the circumstance however seems to be subversive of a partial hypothesis, which, in my essay on the *Urn*, I had formed of these *Tumuli* being *Danish*; but does not affect that which attributes them to the *Britons*. J. S.

CHAP. I.

The general structure of the Barrows throughout the county, has been found to be uniform, and the discoveries which have been made have been nearly similar. From those on *Haldon*, indeed, Urns of a rude form and composition have been taken; and from one in particular, that forms a boundary between the Parishes of *Kenn* and *Kenton*, beneath a large flat stone, which was supported by others around, an Urn, plain in figure, and unbaked; though, tinged as it was with smoke, it appeared to have been exposed to a fire, it was removed without receiving any injury: it had a singularity in its position, the mouth being inverted, from which, on its being raised, a quantity of ashes and white bones were discharged: This is now in the possession of the Rev. *John Swete* of *Oxton House*, behind which, on the verge of *Haldon*, it was discovered; and of the Urn, an account and plate were given in a volume of *Essays*, by a Society of Gentlemen of this City.

The custom of burning the bodies of their deceased friends and relations was common to most ancient Nations, and even practised by the *Jews* themselves,\* and therefore it is most probable they were the remains of either *Britons*, or *Romans*, before their conversion to Christianity.

It may be proved from innumerable instances, that this custom was very early practised, though not generally, as we find from Sacred Writ; *Abraham*, purchased a burying place of the sons of *Heth*, wherein he interred his Wife *Sarah*; and that the *Egyptians* buried their dead is evident from the great care they took in embalming their bodies; some are of opinion, that this custom was introduced to prevent any indecencies being committed on the dead bodies, by their enemies, which seems probable from that passage in the first Book of *Samuel*, where the inhabitants of *Jabesh Gilead*, burnt the bodies of *Saul* and his Sons to prevent their receiving any more indecencies from the *Philistines* notwithstanding it was the common custom of the *Israelites* to bury their dead. And so *Sylla* among the *Romans*, was the first of his family who ordered his body to be burnt; for fear the barbarities he had executed on that of *Marius*, might be retaliated upon his own. At the siege of *Troy*, the *Greeks*, used both ways of interring, and burning; *Patroclus* was burned, and *Ajar* laid in the ground. The *Romans*, derived from the *Greeks*, both these customs of burning and burying; "*In urbe neve Sepelito neve Urito*," says the law of the twelve tables.

The

\* See the 2 Chron. xvi. chap. 14 v.—xxi. chap. 19 v.—and Amos, vi. chap. 10 v.

The place where they burned the dead was set apart for this religious use, and called *Glebe*; from which practice the name is yet applied to all the lands belonging to the Church. CHAP. I.

The *Saxons* (as far as comes to our knowledge) did not make use of that method of interment,† but generally enclosed the bodies of their deceased friends in stone coffins, or graves lined with chalk, by the sides of the public highways, or in common fields. The custom of burying the bodies of the dead within the walls of Cities and Towns, not being instituted (according to *Bede*) until the reign of *Cuthred*, about A. D. 740.

The only reason that can be assigned for the small share that *Exeter* had in the transactions, and its being so little noticed by Historians during the *Roman* government in *Britain* (a period of near four centuries) was probably from its situation, almost in the South West corner of the Island, at a great distance from the scene of action. Bede.

During this time, the *Picts*, *Scots*, and other barbarous nations, who continually harrassed the *Roman* province, were confined to the Northern extremities of the Island; and although they made inroads into the more Southern parts, and committed the most horrid devastations, yet most of the *Roman* garrisons being placed on the northern frontiers, they were as often driven back to their woods and fastnesses: neither could the enemy have penetrated so far to the South, without making an entire conquest of the whole province, which doth not appear ever to have been the case.

The *Saxon* pirates who ravaged the coast of *Britain* during the time of the latter Emperors, were seldom seen to the South of the straits of *Dover*; hence, it may be concluded, Cambden. that although the Northern and Eastern parts were often in a state of war and confusion, the Southern parts of *Devon* must have enjoyed an almost uninterrupted peace, and consequently have given the Historian no occasion to mention a place situated so far from the scene of action.

After the *Romans* had lorded it over all *South Britain*, for near four hundred years, their empire began to decline, the legions stationed in the *British* Garrisons were called home to defend *Italy* and the Capital itself, from the barbarous nations which then broke through the frontiers on every side: *Britain* thus deprived of its protectors, and the greatest part Bede. of the *British* youth being incorporated in the *Roman* legions, the *Picts*, *Scots*, and other tribes of the *Britons* (who had bravely opposed the *Roman* yoke, and had been pent up in the

† The Danes certainly burnt their dead bodies in Britain. J. S.

CHAP. I. the northern parts of the Island) broke through the walls of *Severus*, like a deluge, † and destroyed with fire and sword, every thing before them, even to the very Sea.

The *Britons*, reduced to the greatest distress, fled to the Woods and marshes for refuge; in this extremity they chose *Vortigern*, Prince of the *Danmonii*, for their King, who, though disgraced with every vice, possessed the chief authority among them; and by his counsel, a deputation was sent to the *Saxons*, a *German* nation, desiring their assistance.

It seems from the choice made by the *Britons*, of *Vortigern*, that the *Danmonii* by their situation were in some measure exempted from the desolation that had spread through the other parts of the *Island*, and that he, at the head of his *Danmonians*, collected the other affrighted *Britons* together, in order to make head against the barbarians.

The *Saxons*, a barbarous and intrepid nation, embraced the offer made to them, and sent 1600 men to the assistance of the *Britons*; these auxiliaries were embarked in three ships, under the command of two brothers, *Hengist* and *Horsa*, and landing in the Isle of *Thanet* on the coast of *Kent*, joined the *Britons* and marched against the Invaders.

The enemy were quickly repelled by the *Saxons*: but these new allies perceiving the weak, undisciplined state of the *Britons*, conceived it an easy matter to conquer the country for themselves; therefore, sending intelligence to *Saxony* of the pusillanimity of *Vortigern*, and the weakness of the *Britons*, they were soon reinforced by 5000 more of their countrymen, who (after several bloody battles fought between them, and *Vortimer*, the Son of *Vortigern*) founded the first *Saxon* Kingdom in *Briton*, that of *Kent*, and of which *Hengist* was the first King, who fixed his residence at *Canterbury*.

Saxon Invasion.

A. D.  
495.

The success of *Hengist*, together with the beauty and fertility of *Britain*, allured over swarms of new adventurers: a party of which (and wherein our history is mostly interested) landed in *Hampshire*, and laid the foundation of the West *Saxon* kingdom, in the year 495, under the command of *Cherdick*, at a place (from that event) called *Cherdick-shore*.

*Cherdick*, on his landing, met with a different reception from what his countrymen had experienced in the other parts of the *Island*; the *Britons* disputing every inch of ground, gave him battle the very day of his landing, and though they were vanquished, they defended their liberties for some time against

† A Wall built by the Emperor *Severus* quite across the *Island* from *Carlisle* to *Newcastle*, to defend the *Roman* Province from the continual inroads of the unsubdued *Britons*.

against their invaders, until *Cherdick*, having called to his assistance his countrymen, from *Kent*, and *Sussex*, and being joined by a fresh body of adventurers from *Germany*, who arrived at *Portsmouth*, under the conduct of *Port*, an eminent *Saxon*, gave battle to the *Britons*, then commanded by a King, named *Nazanleod*. In this battle, the *Britons* were defeated, and *Nazanleod*, with 5000 of his men, were slain; and from this period we may date the foundation of the *West Saxon* kingdom, of which, *Exeter* was for some time the Capital, and residence of its Kings.

The *Britons* still continuing bravely to defend their country, the progress of the *Saxons* towards *Devonshire* was but slow; and we do not find that they made any conquests in that county, until the year 568, when *Ceaulin* the third King of *Wessex*, is said to have conquered part of *Devon* and *Somerset*.

In the year 615, a battle was fought at *Beandune* (now *Bampton*) in *Devonshire*, when the *Britons* were defeated by *Kynegils*, King of *Wessex*, with the slaughter of 1046 of their men.

That the *Britons* were still in the possession of *Exeter*, we learn from *Matthew of Westminster*, who informs us, that *Penda*, King of *Mercia* besieged it in the year 632, when it was bravely defended by the *Britons*, until relieved by *Cadwalla* their King, who engaged, and defeated *Penda*, with a great slaughter of his troops.

The *West Saxons* embraced Christianity in the reign of *Kynegils*, in the year 603; and in the reign of *Ina* (who built *Glastonbury Abbey*) about the year 712, was first instituted by that Prince, in the Kingdom of *Wessex*, the tax called (in those days) *Romescot*, or *Peterpence*, which compelled every inhabitant that possessed in his house, goods of one kind, to the value of twenty-pence, to pay yearly to the *Pope* upon *Lammas day*, one penny: this was looked upon as the King's alms; but afterwards demanded by succeeding *Popes*, as a tribute.

No notice is taken, by any author during this long period, of the City of *Exeter*, nor do we find it once mentioned in history, but what hath already been related; it is sufficiently clear that the *Britons* held possession of it, and that Christianity flourished in *Exeter*, while as yet the *West Saxons* continued obstinate pagans, until the year 603, nearly 100 years after the foundation of their Kingdom; and that the *Saxon* name, *Monkton* (by which it was known to them, until the reign of King *Athelstan*) was given it in derision, by the Pagans, from the great number of Monks who had taken

B

refuge

A. D.  
568.

Hume.

615.  
Speed.

632.

603.

712.

Speed.

Saxon  
name.



CHAP. I. refuge there, from the cruelties of the *Saxons*: it being their common practice, before their conversion to Christianity, to massacre the Clergy, (especially the Monks) whenever they were so unfortunate, as to fall into their hands.

There can be no doubt that the Christian Religion flourished in *Exeter*, during the Roman Government; but we have neither history nor tradition to point out to us, either the number or situation of the British Churches in *Exeter*, nor is the smallest vestige of any one remaining. \* That the *Britons* were converted to Christianity soon after their being conquered by the *Romans*, we may learn from *Theodoret*, *Clemens Romanus*, and our own countryman *Gildas*, who assures us that the Gospel was preached in Britain, as early as the year 64. *Stow* likewise informs us, "that King *Lucius* built "St. *Peter's* Church, in Cornhill, London, in the year of "Christ 167."

*Stow's Hist.*  
*London.*

*Stow.*

In the persecution of the Emperor *Dioclesian*, the proto-martyr of *Britain*, *St. Alban* together with some thousands of Christians, were martyred at the City of *Verulam* (now *St. Albans*,) in the year 293; and we likewise read of *Restitutius*, Bishop of *London* who, with other British Bishops, was present at the Council of *Arles* in *France*, in the year 314.

It is probable that the Christian churches of *Exeter*, fell in the general destruction of the City, by *Sweyn*, King of *Denmark*, in the year 1007, who levelled it even with the ground, and destroyed the historic memorials, which were chiefly kept by the monks, who also perished with them.

A. D.  
800.

*Exeter sub-*  
*ject to the*  
*Saxons.*

816.

About the year 800, the Saxon Heptarchy, by their intestine wars with each other, paved the way for *Egbert* the 19th. King of the *West Saxons*, to aspire to the universal monarchy of England: he first turned his arms against the *Cornish Britons*, who still maintained the possession of *Cornwall*, and likewise of all that part of *Devon*, situated West of the river *Ere*, together with the City of *Exeter* itself; and though the *Britons* were often defeated, they continued the war for 14 years: but, at length submitted to *Egbert*, on condition of enjoying their own laws, and paying an annual tribute.

In this treaty the City of *Exeter* was included, and from this period we may date its subjection to the *Saxon* government; and though the *Britons* were suffered to enjoy their lands, the *Saxons* were permitted to dwell with them; which before this time (from the natural hatred they bore the *Saxons*, for dispossessing them of their most fruitful provinces,) they

\* The Church of *St. Pancras* (although as small and mean as can be well imagined,) yet bears evident marks of very remote antiquity.

they would not permit; thus, all the country on the East side of the river *Tamar*, became subject to the *West Saxon* government. CHAP. I.

*Egbert* having thus subdued the *Cornish Britons*, completed the reduction of the *Saxon Heptarchy*, and was acknowledged as King of all England in the year 827. A. D. 827. Hume.

*Egbert* did not enjoy peace long, the *Danes* landing in the Isle of *Sheppey* in Kent, plundered the country, and then escaped to their ships. 832.

The next year the *Danes* again landed at *Charmouth* in *Dorsetshire*, from 35 ships, and were encountered by *Egbert*; the battle was bloody, and although the *Danes* lost a great number of men, they maintained the post they had taken, and made good their retreat to their ships. 833.

Two years after, they entered into a treaty with the *Cornish Britons*, and landing in *Cornwall*, made an inroad into *Devonshire*, but were met by *Egbert* on *Hengist down*, and totally defeated. Danes defeated.

*Ethelwolf* having succeeded his Father *Egbert*, the *Danes* still continued their ravages, burning, and spoiling, wherever they came: and, in the year 851, once more landed in *Devonshire*, but were defeated by *Ceorle*, Earl of *Devon*, at *Wiganburgh*, near the mouth of the *Tamar*, with great slaughter, and forced to retreat to their Ships again, in the utmost confusion. 851. Danes again defeated.

The County of *Devon* appears to have been more free from the ravages of the *Danes* than the major part of *England*: the History of these times, is full of the desolations committed by them, yet it doth not appear, they made any more inroads into this county, until the year 875.

The year 868 is remarkable for the first religious foundation in the City of *Exeter* mentioned in History. King *Ethelbert*, Son of *Ethelwolf*, founded a monastery, near where the Cathedral now stands, which was afterwards destroyed by the *Danes*. 868.

Anno 875, the *Danes* having almost overrun the whole Kingdom, the bravery and prudence of King *Alfred*, preserved it from utter ruin, and compelled them to enter into a treaty with him, which was no sooner made, than broken: for the treacherous *Danes*, without any pretence whatever, suddenly fell on the English army, defeated them, and then marching westward, surprised the City of *Exeter*. 875. Exeter taken by the Danes.

*Alfred* collected fresh forces, and exerted such vigour, that he fought no less than eight battles with them in one year; in consequence of which the *Danes* were reduced to the greatest distress; the remainder of the *Danish* army, however, win- Hume.

**CHAP. I.** tered in *Exeter*, committing the greatest cruelties on the poor inhabitants, and expecting a reinforcement of their countrymen: but the *Danish* fleet met with such severe storms, that 120 of their ships were cast away on the *English* coasts; and their army marching towards *Exeter*, was met by *Alfred*, who after a severe battle, entirely defeated them: new treaties were then entered into; and the *Danes* gave him both pledges and oaths, to relinquish the land.

Speed.

Danes defeated.

A. D.  
876.

Danes again defeated.

The *Danes* who wintered in *Exeter*, hearing of the misfortunes of their countrymen, and the citizens (incited by the successes of their King) falling upon them, some immediately fled to *Dartmouth*, and there shipped themselves; but most of these perished in a violent tempest: the other party hastily retreated to *Chippenham* in *Wiltshire*, where being joined by great numbers under the command of three of their Kings, *Gurthun*, *Esketel*, and *Hammond*, they broke (notwithstanding the late treaty) into *Alfred's* dominions, ravaging the country, and burning and destroying all before them: the *English*, being disheartened, left their country, in the greatest terror; and though *Alfred* defeated the plunderers in several engagements, yet such numbers continually arrived to join them, that, *Alfred* was reduced to the greatest distress, and the *Danes* became possessed of all his kingdom, except the counties of *Somerset*, *Hants*, and *Wiltshire*, and some few fortified towns, among which was *Exeter*.

*Alfred*, unable to make head, for the present, against the invaders, secreted himself; and, in the habit of a peasant, lived for some time, in the house of a cowherd, who had been entrusted with some of his cattle: here *Alfred* collected some few of his trusty followers, and retired into an island, in *Somersetshire*, formed by the rivers *Thone* and *Parret*, and rendered almost inaccessible, by the bogs and morasses, which surrounded it; here he built a fortress, and often sallied out upon the *Danes*: in this situation he remained near a twelvemonth.

Danes defeated by the people of Devon.

878.

While *Alfred* lay here concealed, *Hubba*, the *Dane*, having spread desolation over *Wales*, landed in *Devon*, from 23 ships, and besieged the Castle of *Kenwith*, situated near the mouth of the river *Taw*: *Oddune*, Earl of *Devon*, had taken refuge there, with a few of his followers and being but ill supplied with water and provisions, he determined by some vigorous blow, to prevent the necessity of submitting to the enemy: therefore, making a sudden sally on the *Danes* before sun-rise, he put them to the rout, pursued them with great slaughter, killed *Hubba*, himself; and took their famous

mous *Standard Reafan*, † in which the *Danes* put their greatest confidence. CHAP. I.

Tradition still points out the place of *Hubba's* interment, and though the stones, which, (after the manner of the northern nations) were heaped on his grave, are swept away by the incroachments of the sea: yet, the place still retains the name of *Whibble stone*, and is situated on the strand, near *Appledore*, on the northern coast of *Devon*. Cambden.

*Alfred* being informed of these successes, left his retreat, (before he assembled his subjects) in order to reconnoitre the *Danish* camp, and be himself convinced, whether there was any probability of succes, or not: therefore disguising himself in the character of a Harper, and passing unsuspected through every quarter, was introduced, even to the tent of their King, *Gurthrum*; and remaining there several days, he remarked the security of the *Danes*, their contempt of the *English*, (whom they considered as entirely subdued) and their dissolute waste of what they had gained by rapine, and violence: he then secretly sent messengers to his subjects, and summoned them to assemble at *Briston*, on the borders of *Schwood Forest*, in *Somersetshire*. On the appointed day, the *English* joyfully resorted to their King, whom, on his appearance among them, they welcomed with shouts of applause and the more so, as they had considered him certainly dead. Stow.  
A. D.  
878.

*Alfred* instantly conducted them to the *Danish* camp; and knowing its situation, attacked the enemy in the most unguarded quarter: the *Danes*, surprised to see an army of the *English*, (whom they had long held as totally subdued) but much more at seeing *Alfred* at their head, made but a faint resistance; and though greatly superior in numbers, were defeated with a prodigious slaughter. Danes defeated by  
Alfred.

*Alfred* pursued the remainder of the routed army, to a fortified camp, where they had fled for safety, and where, (being reduced to the greatest extremity by hunger) they, once more desired terms of peace, to which *Alfred* consented, on conditions of their embracing Christianity, and evacuating his territories.

Notwithstanding the former treaty, the other parties of the *Danes*, roving about for prey, and not considering themselves bound by the last compact, continued to infest the *English* coasts; and in the year 879, another body of them, 879.  
William of  
Malmesbury  
who

† This *Standard* was a Black Raven, embroidered on a red field by the Sisters of *Hubba*; and consecrated to the God of War, by the Pagan Priests. The *Danes* were so strongly persuaded of its sanctity, that they fully believed it would insure them victory whenever it was unfurled.

## CHAP. I.

Exeter besieged by the Danes.

Relieved by Alfred.

Exeter repaired by Alfred.

A. D. 893.

Hume.

Again besieged.

who had plundered *Normandy in France*, landed at *Wareham in Dorsetshire* (*Alfred* being then in the north of *England*) and marched to *Exeter*, which they instantly besieged; the Citizens defended themselves with the greatest resolution, (well knowing the consequences of a surrender to such a barbarous foe;) and their intrepid Monarch being informed of the Citizens' distress, dispatched a trusty messenger to assure them, he would hasten to their relief.

*Alfred*, considering the importance of the City, immediately followed his messengers, at the head of a chosen body of *West Saxons*: the Citizens, at this period, were in the utmost extremity; yet continued bravely to defend themselves, not doubting that their King would give them his full aid and co-operation: the *Danes* despairing, from the brave opposition made to all their assaults; and, hearing of *Alfred's* approach, broke up the siege, and fled to their ships. *Alfred* closely followed them, but they were embarked before he could come up with them: in their retreat, they committed the most horrid devastations, spoiling and destroying the country, neither sparing age, nor sex.

The *English Fleet*, which *Alfred* had stationed on the Southern coasts, fell in with many of their Ships; these were captured, and the crews, by order of the English Monarch, were executed as Pirates.

*Alfred*, being convinced of the great utility of a naval force, to protect the coasts against the continual inroads of these barbarians, fitted out two fleets, and by some timely severities on the intruders, kept his kingdom in profound peace (except a few intervals) until the year 893.

During this time of peace, *Alfred* repaired and beautified such cities and towns, as had been damaged in the former wars; among which, the City of *Exeter* is mentioned by *Matthew of Westminster*, who says, "*he fortified it with new Bulwarks, and greatly beautified it.*"

The *Danes*, who had been settled in *Northumberland*, broke out into open rebellion, and being joined by great numbers of new adventurers, embarked on board of 240 ships, and appearing before *Exeter*, laid close siege to it: the citizens, again stoutly defended themselves until *Alfred* came to their relief, who falling upon the rebels before they were aware, defeated them, and pursued them to their ships, with great slaughter.

*Exeter* does not appear in any of the transactions, during the remainder of this excellent Prince's reign, who died A. D. 901; after having fought, in person, fifty-six pitched battles

Explanatory notes.

- Towns olim Episcopial.
- Religious Houses.
- Castles.
- ✕ Fields of Battle.

*Obsolete Anglo-Saxon Letters.*

L.C.	N.H.	bd.	p.r.	p.w.
E.E.	M.M.	ff.	J.S.	D.th.
G.G.	F.W.	z.g.	z.t.	ð.th.





tles by land and sea; and, in most of which, he proved victorious. ‡ CHAP. I.

*Edward*, surnamed the Elder, the son of *Alfred*, succeeded his Father; and in the year 918, held a *Wittena-Gemote* or general assembly of his chief subjects in this City. § A. D. 918.

*Athelstan* succeeded his Father *Edward*, in the year 926: in his reign, the *Britons*, who had hitherto inhabited the western part of *Devonshire*, and also (in conjunction with the *Saxons*. according to the treaty made with King *Egbert*) the city of *Exeter*, rebelled: when *Athelstan* marched westward, compelled them to abandon the City, and the whole of *Devonshire*; and fixed the river *Tamar*, as the boundary of the *Cornish Britons*: after this, he returned to *Exeter*, destroyed the old fortifications (which before his time, consisted of huge bulwarks of earth, strengthened by stakes, and surrounded by ditches) building a stone wall of one mile and half in circuit, flanked by lofty towers, and encompassed by a deep and regular fosse. Isaac.

The greatest part of the wall built by *Athelstan*, is still remaining: it consists of small unhewn stones, as they were dug from the quarry; the interstices filled up with hot lime and rough sand, and faced with ashler work of hewn stone; the whole strengthened by strong buttresses: the mortar used in this work is become, from length of time, so hard and durable, that, on attempting to pull down any part of it, the stones are sooner broken, than separated one from the other. Exeter taken from the Saxons.

The walls are 12 feet in thickness; and at present, where the battlements are remaining, 30 feet in height: most of the embrasures had orillons, or loopholes, for the defendants to discharge their arrows and other missiles under cover. The number of Towers originally on this wall, cannot now be determined, nor whether there were any more than what now remain *in situ*: those of which we have, at present, any vestiges, are only six in number: five standing between the Rebuilt by Athelstan.

‡ In the year 1784, the society of Antiquarians receiving good information that the remains of this Prince, were deposited in the Church of *Great-Driffield* in *Yorkshire*, they deputed two of their members to examine into the fact, after digging some time they found a stone Coffin, and on opening the same, discovered the entire skeleton of this great Prince, together with a great part of his steel armour. The Coffin was again closed up as well as the grave and left in the same state as when found. It appears that *Alfred* being wounded at the battle of *Stamford-Briggs*, returned to *Driffield*, where he languished of his wounds 20 days, and then dying, was buried in this Church. City Walls.

§ *Isaac* places this parliament A. D. 888, which is thirteen years before *Edward* came to the Crown. Towers on the Walls.



CHAP. I. the Castle and Southgate, and one (vulgarly called the Snail tower) on the western side of the wall, fronting the river: only one of these towers remain still (excepting the roof) in its original state. It consisted of three stages, or floors, for the defendants to stand on: it is 42 feet in height from the present scalp of the ditch, having orillons in front, and on each side, to flank the ditch; a door-way was made here (now walled up) and called *Bedford* postern, it being a passage for the conveniency of *Bedford* House, and plainly appears to have been constructed long since the building was raised

This venerable specimen of the skill of our ancestors in architecture, which has been standing upwards of 860 years, is now in a state of decay; and in all probability may soon share the fate of the other towers, which have been taken down even with the city walls, and deprived of their upper stories: therefore, to preserve its memory to future generations, I have here given a correct view of it.

Exeter Castle.

The Castle is not mentioned in the history of these times: but from the Saxon arches, and similarity of work and materials, it seems to have been built at the same time with the walls: it is situated in the northern point of the City, and on the most elevated part of the hill; the ascent being very steep, particularly from the North, on which side it was defended by a deep moat and counterscarp, and which, from its great declivity, prevented any probability of success in attacking it on that side; as no military engines then used in besieging towns, could be brought near enough for any execution; neither could mining be effected, as the rock, on which it was built, is composed of very hard stone of the granite kind. The mound on which the masonry is erected, is partly artificial, composed of loose stones (probably the refuse of the quarry) laid edgeways, and filled in with earth: this plainly appeared in the late alterations.

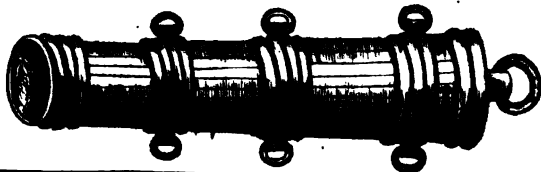
The walls are of an oval figure, the longest diameter being 109 yards, and the transverse 101 yards; they are very thick, and, like the city walls, strongly cemented with hot lime and sand: there were five towers on the walls; two square, and three of a semicircular figure. A more particular description, with the history of this ancient fortress, accompanied with a plan, and two views, will be given in the course of this work.

Name changed.

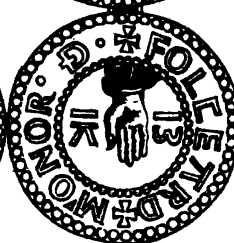
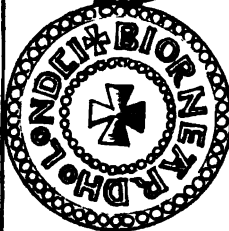
*Athelstan* changed the name of *Monkton* (by which the City had been called by the Saxons ever since the year 450) to *Exanceaster*; and also founded a house of Benedictine Monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; (now the Eastern part



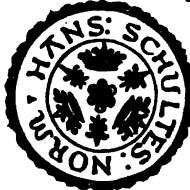
Ancient Cannon, see Eastgate, page 92.



*Anglo Saxon Coins,  
page 19.*



*Norman Coin found in the Castle.*



*Armorial bearing,  
page 411.*



*Mutilated inscription at Marypole-head, p. 49.*

*mi cccxi quorum majs*

*at Fountains.*

part of the Cathedral, which is converted into a Library) he likewise built the *Abbey of Saint Germans*, in *Corwall*; *St. Petrock*, at *Bodmin*; and *Pilton*, near *Barnstaple*; and caused the Bible to be translated into the *Anglo-Saxon* language, at that time the mother tongue of this country.

This Monarch \* granted liberty of Coinage to some of the principal cities and towns, in his dominions, and established two mints, for that purpose, in *Exeter*. The *Saxon* coins of this period, were chiefly silver, very thin, and, the dies, in which they were struck, badly executed.

*Cambden* has given many specimens of this Monarch's coins; (plate 5, p. 185) among which is one which he ascribes to this City, and reads the legend, on the reverse *Tu- nus moneta Easnoester*: but, this is all probability is, a coin of *Ethelbert's*, as there is one of his, still preserved, with the same reverse.

*Edmund*, the brother of *Athelstan*, succeeded him; and kept the *Danes* so much in subjection, during his short reign of five years, that the kingdom enjoyed, for that time, an interval of peace. *Edmund*, being treacherously murdered, at *Publicchurch* in *Gloucestershire*, by *Loaf* a noted thief (whom he had formerly banished) was succeeded by his Brother *Edward*, who, in the year 950, founded the first Bishopric in this County, at *Bishops Tanton*; and also that of *St. Germans* in *Cornwall*.

In the year 959, *Edgar* succeeded his brother *Edwy*; and finding the country overrun with wolves, changed the tribute annually paid by the British Princes, of cattle and specie, into a delivery of 900 wolves heads: and, by this means, in the course of a few years, a wolf could scarce be found in the whole island.

The third wife of *Edgar* was, *Ethfrida*, daughter of *Orgar*, Earl of *Devon*, the founder of *Taunton Abbey*: it is reported of him, that he was of such gigantic stature and strength, that once coming with the King, to *Exeter*, and finding the *Eastgate* shut and barred, and the Porter absent, he, by the force of his arms only, unhinged the gates from the bars, and, with his foot, forced them open: his thigh bone was preserved in the *Abbey of Taunton*, until the dissolution of that monastery.

*Edmund*, (surnamed the martyr,) succeeded his father, *Edgar*; and, after a reign of four years, was treacherously murdered

\* The name of *Athelstan* is still traditionally remembered in *Exeter*: a few years since, a very ancient Stone building was remaining in *St. Paul's Street*, vulgarly called *King Addlestons Palace*.

CHAP. I.

murdered (at *Corfe Castle*, in *Dorsetshire*) by the instigation of his Step-mother, *Elfrida*, to make way for his half brother, *Ethelred*, who, accordingly succeeded him.

*Ethelred* (named the *unready*) the son of *Edgar* by *Elfrida*, seemed greatly to have degenerated from the virtues and bravery of his ancestors: it is related of him, that he was extremely avaricious, indolent and cowardly, being entirely governed by the monks, whose pernicious counsels were the ruin of his family and kingdom; and occasioned an insurrection of his subjects, which, being fomented by the *Danes* (who had been incorporated with the *English*, and lived quietly for the space of 22 years) broke out into open rebellion. The *foreign Danes*, being acquainted with these transactions, immediately invaded *England*, with a large fleet, and, after spoiling great part of the country, in the year 1001, sat down before *Exeter*, besieging it with the greatest fury.

Exeter besieged by the Danes.

A. D.  
1001.

Danes defeated at Pinhoe.

The siege continued for near two months; the citizens, in many sallies, driving the enemy from their walls, and repelling them in many attacks: at length, after being reduced to the greatest distress, they were succoured by *Athelmere*, Earl of *Devon*, and the inhabitants of the neighbouring country: the Citizens then sallying out on the plunderers, attacked them in their camp (between the village of *Pinhoe* and *Exeter*) and, after a bloody engagement, forced them from it, and totally defeated them: the *Danes* retreated in great confusion to their ships. †

These successes were but a temporary relief to the unhappy *English*: the barbarians, continually reinforced by great numbers of their countrymen from abroad, and joined by those who had been settled in *Northumberland* and *East Anglia*; spread desolation, throughout the whole kingdom; destroying every where with sword and fire: *Ethelred*, endeavoured to remedy these evils, by fitting out a fleet, which he put under the command of *Edric*, Duke of *Mercia*, who had married his daughter *Editha*; but he, together with part of the fleet, treacherously deserted to the enemy; and the remainder were obliged to take refuge in the river *Ese*. ‡

1002.

*Ethelred*, in this distress, issued, by the advice of his Nobles, an order, (both cowardly and inhuman) that all the *Danes*, dispersed among the *English*, should be massacred

† There are some vestiges of the *Danish* works still remaining: on a hill opposite the Castle is a mount, vulgarly called *Danes Castle*; and many ditches in the adjoining fields, supposed to be part of their intrenchments.

‡ See Prefatory Remarks.

cred on a certain evening; this horrid mandate was most cruelly put into execution, throughout the whole kingdom, in cold blood, on *St. Brice's day*, the 13th November, 1002.

The news of this massacre, inflamed the minds of the *Danes* to a desperate revenge; and, in the year 1003, *Sweyne*, King of *Denmark*, invaded *England*, with a most powerful army: *Ethelred*, in endeavouring to stop his progress, was totally defeated, with a great slaughter of his troops; and, the *English* nobility basely deserting their King, the *Danes* overspread the whole kingdom, and committed the greatest cruelties wherever they came. The citizens of *Exeter*, hearing of these barbarities, repaired their walls, and strengthened their fortifications, in order to resist his attacks: *Sweyne*, being informed of these preparations, marched immediately towards *Exeter*; and, on his march, received the submission of *Athelmere*, Earl of *Devon*, and the inhabitants of the county: *Sweyne* closely invested the city, and the citizens were determined to defend themselves to the last extremity, and not submit but with the loss of their lives: yet, how vain is human prudence, when Providence has ordained it otherwise! the citizens were betrayed by their commander, *Hugh* a *Norman* by birth (who had been appointed governor of the city by the interest of Queen *Emma*) he treacherously let in the *Danes*, and *Sweyne* exasperated at the resistance he met with, put all the inhabitants, that fell into his hands to the sword; burnt the city; and levelled it even with the ground from the East to the West gate.

In this disastrous calamity, whatever had been spared by time, of *British* or *Roman* remains of magnificence, must have been destroyed: and, during the remainder of the reign of *Ethelred*, and the short one of his son *Edmund*, *Exeter* lay amidst its own ruins, a heap of desolation: *Edmund* (surnamed *Ironsides*) after a reign of one year, was basely murdered by the traitor, *Edric*; and this made room for *Canute* the *Dane*, the son of *Sweyne*.

*Canute*, by the joint consent of the *English* and *Danes*, was elected King; and he put an end to a war, which had continued above two hundred years, and had cost the two nations more than 300,000 men, who were killed in fifty-four land, and thirty-eight sea fights, besides innumerable skirmishes, and sieges.

Peace being now re-established, the scattered inhabitants began to repair to, and re-edify their former habitations; and *Exeter* rose, like a phoenix, out of her own ashes. *Canute* granted great immunities to the returning citizens; and in some measure to expiate the cruelties of his father *Sweyne*, repaired the ruined churches and monasteries, and gave to that

Earl of Devon submits to the Danes.

Exeter besieged by the Danes.

A. D. 1003.

Hoveden.

Exeter taken and destroyed by them.

1017.

Canute the Dane's donations to Exeter.

**CHART. I** of *St. Peter*, the manor of *Stoke*, near *Exeter*; from whence came its adjunct name of *Stoke Canon*. There is still remaining in the parish Church of *Stoke*, an ancient painting on glass, in one of the windows, representing a King in a praying posture, with a label over his head "*Rex Canonicus*."

A. D.  
1036.

*Canute* died on the 12th of November 1036, after a reign of 19 years, during which, by his virtues, and impartial administration of justice, he acquired the love and esteem of his subjects both *English* and *Danes*. The short reigns of his two Sons, *Harold* and *Hardicanute* (who succeeded each other) were marked with cruelty and gluttony: this made the *Danish* line odious to the people; and therefore, on the death of *Hardicanute* † (who died at *Lambeth*, from excess of drinking) in the year 1041, they unanimously conferred the vacant throne on *Edward*, the Son of *Ethelred*, which again restored the *Saxon* line.

1041.

CHART. I  
granted by  
Edward the  
Confessor.

1041.

*Edward*, surnamed the *Confessor*, was crowned at *Winchester*, on Easter day, 1041: he remitted the yearly tribute of 40,000 Pounds (called *Dane-geld* which had been levied for upwards of forty years on the *English* subjects; and collected into one body, the laws made by his predecessors, viz. those of the *Saxons*, *Mercians* and *Danes*, which are the foundation of what is called to this day, the common law: he likewise granted new charters and immunities to such cities as had suffered much in the late wars: repaired the religious houses, particularly the monastery of *St. Peter* in *Exeter*: united the two Bishops' Sees of *Crediton* and *St. Germans*, removed them to *Exeter*, and, with his Queen, *Editha*, installed *Leofricus*, in the following remarkable form of words.

Bishop's  
See removed to Ex-  
eter.

1049.

"I, King *Edward*, taking *Leofricus* by my right haunde,  
"and *Editha*, my Queen, by the lefte, do enstalle hym the  
"fyyste and most famous Byshoppe, of *Excester*, with a  
"great abundance of blessinges to all such as shall furder  
"and encrease the same; but with a fearfull and execrable  
"curse to all such as shall diminish, or take any thing from  
"it."

The Monks who were resident in the Benedictine Abbey, founded by King *Athelstan*, in *Exeter*, were removed by *Edward* to *Westminster*; where he built that stately edifice, now known by the name of *Westminster Abbey*. He was the last King of *England* of the race of *Egbert*: he died at *Westminster* on the 5th of January 1065.

On

† The death of *Hardicanute* was yearly celebrated by the *English* nation, for a long time after his death; and this celebration was called, in derision, *Horide*; that is, the feast of the Hog.

On the death of *Edward, Harold, Earl of Devon* and, Son of *Godewin, Earl of Kent*, was elected to the vacant throne, (notwithstanding the claim of the lawful heir, *Edgar Atheling, grandson of Edmund Ironside*.) He defeated the *Danes*, who had landed from 500 Ships and taken the city of *York*: where their King, *Harold Harfager*, and *Tooten* (brother to *Harold*, who had joined the enemy) were killed.

CHAP. I.

A. D.  
1065.

While *Harold* was in the north of *England*, pursuing the *Danes*, *William*, surnamed the bastard, Duke of *Normandy*, landed with a great army at *Pevensey*, in *Sussex*: *Harold* marched with the greatest dispatch, to give him battle; and met the *Norman* Duke, near *Hastings*: the battle was fatal to the *English* monarch, who was slain, with the flower of his nobility, and a prodigious number of common men. This battle, which decided the fate of *England*, and brought it under a foreign yoke, was fought on Saturday the 14th of October 1066.

England  
defeated by  
William  
Duke of  
Normandy.

1066.

The motives which induced *William* to invade *England*, and the facility of his conquest, are thus accounted for by most historians, *William* pretended that *Harold* had sworn, while in *Normandy*, that, on the death of King *Edward*, he would promote his interest in the succession; and that *Edward*, on his death bed, had appointed him his successor: but, as the historians of those days were chiefly *Monks*, who were strongly inclined to the *Norman* interest, we can put but little confidence in their report: nor does it seem probable that *Edward* should dispose of his crown to a foreigner, while his nephew, *Edgar Atheling* was living, and who was the undoubted heir.

The facility of this conquest, and the subjection of a people who, for many years had so gallantly defended their liberties against the *Danes*, is, by these bigotted historians, ascribed to the almost continual peace which the *English* had enjoyed for nearly 80 years; and which had made them neglect their military discipline, and abandon themselves to luxury and idleness: to which may be added the licentiousness of the clergy, the effeminacy, gluttony, and oppression of the nobility, together with the drunkenness and disorders of the common people.

Other authors relate (and it appears with more truth,) that it was principally owing to the treachery of the Bishops (the Bishops having been mostly filled by the ill judged policy of *Edward*, with *Norman* monks,) and the superior skill of the *Normans* in military tactics, who, in this battle, made great havoc among the *English*, with their cross bows: a weapon, to them before, unknown.

The



CHAP. I.

The *Norman* historians tell us that the main body of the *English* were armed with Bills (their ancient weapons;) and that they kept themselves so compact in one body, that no force could break or disorder them, until the *Normans* pretending to retreat, brought the former into disorder, and by that means gained the victory.

Duke *William* having gained this decisive victory, marched towards *London*; not in a direct, but circuitous route; and crossing the *Thames* at *Wallingford*, proceeded to *Berkhamstead*; where he was met by *Alfred*, archbishop of *York*, who was attended by many other prelates, *Edgar Atheling* (the legal heir) and several of the principal nobility, and who, there swore fealty to him.

Notwithstanding this, *Edwin*, and *Morcar*, the two stout Earls of *Northumberland* and *Mercia*, endeavoured to rouse the *English* from their lethargy; and once more to oppose the conqueror: but, finding the Bishops (who at that time had all the power in their hands) siding with the *Normans*, they desisted from their attempt. *William* marched to *London*, and was crowned at *Westminster*, on Christmas day 1066.

The City of *Exeter*, as hath been already mentioned, had suffered greatly during the *Danish* wars; and, although there was only a period of 63 years from its total destruction by *Sweyne*, to the *Norman* conquest, the historians of that time represent it to be strong, wealthy and full of inhabitants: and this is fully corroborated by the obstinate defence it made against the conqueror, in the year 1076; which will be treated of in its proper place.

Ancient  
govern-  
ment of  
*Exeter*.

By what form this city was governed, during the times of the *Britons* and *Romans*, is not mentioned by historians; but, by the *Romans* in their colonies and fortresses, it was executed by a *Pro-Prætor*, whose power was arbitrary, and government military. During the *Saxon* period, its government was by a Portgrave, or Portreeve: who had power over all judicial controversies; and in the reign of *Athelstan* the city was divided into four hundreds, or wards, over each of which was placed an Alderman.

These wards continue to this time; and are denominated the East, West, North and South wards. In times of war, or danger, the whole government, civil and military, was lodged in the hands of the Earls of *Devon*: under whom were the *Viccomes*, or Sheriffs; and the *Thanes*, or chief military officers, who held lands of the King by a kind of military tenure, somewhat similar to that of the feudal barons after the *Norman* conquest: the bishops likewise acted as judges in conjunction with the *Earls*, and sometimes commanded in the armies in a military capacity. We

We have very few of the names of the *Saxon* Earls of *Devon* handed down to us; nor is it certain whether the office was elective or hereditary. CHAP. I.

*Vortigern*, (afterwards King of England) it is recorded, was Prince of the *Danmonii*, before he was elected to the throne.

*Alpius* was made Earl of *Devon*, by King *Athelstan*. He resided in the castle of *Excester*; it being customary in those days, for the Earls to dwell in the counties from whence they took their titles. Saxon Chronicle.

*Orgar* was Earl of *Devon*, in the reign of King *Edgar* (as before related) the King having married his daughter. *Goda* is mentioned as Earl of *Devon*, in the reign of King *Ethelred*; and to have been slain in battle, by the *Danes*. *Athelmere* was Earl of *Devon* after the death of *Goda*: he treacherously deserted his sovereign, King *Ethelred*; and, joining his forces with *Sweyne*, accompanied him to the siege and destruction of *Exeter*. History of Tavistock Abbey.  
Saxon Earls of Devon.

*Alphegus* succeeded him as Earl of *Devon* in the reign of *Canute*; and after him, according to *Lambert*, *Godwin* Earl *Kent*, was Earl of *Devon*, *Dorset*, *Sussex*, *Hampshire*, and *Cornwall*. The unfortunate *Harold* succeeded his father, as Earl of *Devon* and *Cornwall*.

*End of the first Chapter.*

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## CHAPTER II.

### *From the Norman Conquest to the end of the reign of Henry VIII.*

#### CHAP. II.

**W**ILLIAM, on being invested with the English Crown, at first affected to govern his new subjects with great lenity; but as soon as his power was established, he treated them with the greatest severity; arbitrarily seizing their lands, and dividing them among his rapacious followers. The *English*, exasperated at the conduct of the *Normans*, broke out into open rebellion in several parts of the kingdom: the citizens of *Exeter*, in particular, dispossessed Baldwin de Brionis\* of the castle, to whose custody it had been committed by the conqueror; and was, at that time esteemed a place of the greatest importance: they repaired their walls, and strengthened their fortifications, incited, it is supposed, by *Githa*, (mother of the late King *Harald*) who had taken refuge in the city, after having been deprived of her lands and dowry, to make room for the new comers.

Exeter rebels against the conqueror.

A. D.  
1076.

Besieged  
and taken.

King Wil-  
liam's clemency.

*William*, heated at these commotions, marched at the head of a numerous army, and laid close siege to the city. The inhabitants relying on the strength of their fortifications, insulted him with opprobrious language from their walls, and repelled his assaults with the utmost vigour: but part of the walls falling down (which the *Monkish* historians attributed to divine providence, though with greater reason it might have been occasioned by machines used by the besiegers) the citizens were compelled to surrender. The conqueror, contrary to his usual practice, granted them favorable terms; renewed their ancient privileges, and only altered the gates of the castle, as a token of his victory.

Having subdued the rebels, and quieted the internal commotions, yet despairing of the good will of the stubborn *English* by lenity, he had recourse to the most rigorous laws. He punished the insurgents without mercy, depriving them of their possessions, and bestowing them on the *Normans*: He abolished the ancient *Saxon* laws, and established those of *Normandy*,

\* This *Baldwin* had been created by the conqueror Baron of *Oakhampston*, and hereditary Viscount of *Devon*; and, in consequence of that office, had the custody of, and residence in, the castle.

*Normandy*, seized the treasures of the monasteries, deprived CHAP. II, the *English* of all places of trust, imposed a feudal tenure on all lands belonging to the crown, and made a new law, by which every one of his *English* subjects was compelled, on Arbitrary laws. the penalty of death, to put out their fires and candles at the sound of a bell at eight o'clock at night. † This was named the curfew, or coverfire. He also caused a general survey to be made of all the lands in the kingdom, and to be entered into a book called *Doomsday book* (which is still existing,) and laid a tax of 6 shillings on every hide of land. ‡

In *Doomsday book* it is recorded that "*Exeter did not geld ‡ but when London, York, and Winchester did, that was* Cambden. "*a mark of silver for a Knight's fee, in case of an expedition by land or sea, it served after the rate of five hides: at the time of this survey, the King had in this City; three hundred and fifteen houses: it paid fifteen pounds a year, and that 48 houses were destroyed after the King came to England.*"

During the remainder of this King's reign, *Exeter* enjoyed the blessings of peace, and greatly increased in splendour and number of inhabitants; which arose partly from the additional privileges and immunities granted to it, and from the number of *Normans* who settled in it. \* It appears also from our ancient historians, that the citizens, even in those days, carried on a large trade with foreign countries; and that the change of government, instead of being detrimental, was rather beneficial, and increased the opulence of the inhabitants.

King *William*, in the year 1080 founded the Abbey of *Battle*, in *Sussex*, on the spot where the famous battle of *Hastings* was fought; and gave to it, as a cell, the church of *St. Olave*, in this city. *William* died in 1087; and was succeeded by his second son, *William*, surnamed (from his red hair) *Rufus*.

*Robert*, his eldest brother, who, by his father's will, enjoyed the Dukedom of *Normandy*, demanded the crown in right

† There is still some part of this custom remaining in *Exeter*; the Cathedral bell tolling every night at eight o'clock; and which is still termed the *Bell wane*.

‡ A hide of land contained 100 Acres.

§ To *geld*, was to pay the quota of taxes: hence the term of *Guild-hall*, anciently written *Geldthall*.

\* Soon after the conquest, *William* introduced a great number of Jews into the kingdom, from *Normandy*; and it is probable, that some of those industrious traders settled in *Exeter*: for we find in record, that, in the reign of *Henry* the third, the manor of *South Hole*, in this county was mortgaged by *William*, Son of *Richard de Hole*, to a Jew of *Exeter*; and which was seized by that Monarch.

*Risdon's survey of Devon.*

CHAP. II. right of succession; and was supported in his claim by a great number of the *Norman* Barons: but *William*, having gained the good will of the *English* nation, by his promises of restoring their ancient laws, soon compelled the rebels to submit; and the steady allegiance of his *English* subjects, biassing the Monarch in their favor, he greatly added to the privileges of several cities, among which, *Exeter* had a share of his bounty.

*William*, however, soon forgot his promises. He made several arbitrary laws; and particularly such as regarded the preservation of the game, not only in his own forests and domains, but throughout his whole dominions. The penalty inflicted by these laws was death, or the loss of limb, for the killing of deer, or any other game; and these laws, it is said, were the principal foundation of the present existing game laws.

It has been already mentioned that the late King gave the church of *St. Olave* in this city to the monks of the Abbey of *Battle*; the said Abbot and Monks, assisted therein by *Rufus*, founded the priory of *St. Nicholas* on a vacant spot near the said church; which, by subsequent benefactions rose to great power and wealth, as will be noticed in the course of this history. To this priory the King gave a close of land, situated within the city walls, and called from this donation, *Fryers-hays* (now *St. Bartholomew's* burying ground:) he also gave to the Prior a charter to hold an annual fair, on the festival of *St. Nicholas*, being the 6th day of December; and likewise a moiety of a fair, held in this city long before the conquests, called *Crolditch*; now *Lammas* fair, to him and his successors for ever.

The death of *William Rufus*, which happened on the 2d of August, 1100, (he being accidentally shot by an arrow, which had glanced against a tree, while hunting in *New forest*, in *Hampshire*) made room for his younger brother, *Henry* surnamed *Beauclerck*, who succeeded him.

*Henry* taking advantage of his eldest brother, *Robert's* absence, (who was then in the *Holy land*) seized on the vacant throne; and, in order to secure himself thereon, placed his greatest confidence on the *English* nation, who were, by far, the bulk of the people. He began his reign (in 1100) by granting to his subjects a very advantageous charter; confirming several privileges they enjoyed under the *Saxon* Monarchs; restoring the laws of *Edward the Confessor*; and reforming the abuses which had crept into the government during the two former reigns, through the insolence of the *Normans*. He likewise abolished the *curfew* law;

Priory of  
St. Nicholas  
founded.

A. D.  
1089.

St. Nicholas  
fair  
granted.

Lammas  
fair.

1100.

Henry 1.

law; the tax called *Dane-geldt*, so odious to his subjects; and granted great immunities to the principal cities and boroughs of his dominions. The city of *Exeter* received marks of his bounty, by his granting them a new charter, and confirming to them all the privileges they had been granted by the Saxon government.

CHAP. II.

New charter granted.

*Henry* married *Maud* (or *Matilda*) daughter to *Malcolm* King of *Scotland*, and grand daughter to the *Saxon* King, *Ethelred*; by which in some measure, the ancient line of succession was restored. This greatly endeared him to his *English* subjects. On his marriage, he granted to his said wife, *Maud* (as appears by the charters still extant) the *Fee-farm* rents of this city, estimated then at 25 pounds a year: a great sum in those days.

Rent of Exeter granted to Queen *Maud*.

In the charter granted to *Exeter* by this King, their ancient rights were fully confirmed; and, it says "they should be free from scot, and lot, and *Dane-geldt*; and that they should not geldt, but when *London*, *York* and *Winchester* geldted: that they should enjoy their full pleadings and amerciements within their own walls, as was customary at that time in the city of *London*."

King *Henry* first instituted the present form of the high court of parliament. Before his time, the nobility and bishops only were called to consult about the most important affairs of state: but he caused knights, from the different counties; and citizens and burgesses, from the principal places in the kingdom, to be assembled; and divided the parliament into three Estates, the nobility, the clergy, and the commons: these represented the whole body of the people; and he appointed them to sit in several chambers, the King, Bishops and Lords in one; and the commons in another.

Parliaments first instituted.

It seems probable that this city sent its representatives to this meeting; though we have no account mentioned of it, the parliamentary rolls not commencing till the 23d year of *Edward* the first.

Record tells us that the King reserved to himself the appointment of Portreeves, or chief Magistrates; and that guilds, or fraternities were first established, under certain regulations, for the better government of Trades and mysteries: and that the inhabitants enjoyed the greatest blessings of plenty in this King's reign. As much wheat was sold for 12d. as would suffice 100 people for a day; and a fat sheep, for a groat.

Great plenty.

In the year 1118, Queen *Maud* gave to the church and canons of the *Holy Trinity*, within *Aldgate*, in the city of

A. D. 1118.

D 2

London,

CHAP. II. London, two parts of the rent and revenues of this city; then valued at 25 pounds a year. King Henry died on the 1st of December 1135; and was succeeded by Stephen, Earl of Blois, grandson of William the conqueror, by his daughter Adela.

A. D.  
1135.

Stephen.

Exeter be-  
sieged and  
taken by  
K. Stephen

Stephen, having through the intrigues of his brother, Henry bishop of Winchester (the Pope's legate,) and the privileges he promised to grant the English, got possession of the throne, notwithstanding the lawful pretensions of the Empress Maud, only surviving child of the late King Henry; was crowned at Westminster on the 26th day of December 1135. He gave his subjects a very advantageous charter; and acknowledged, that he possessed the crown by no other tenure, than the election of the people, and the clergy; notwithstanding however, these great concessions, the barons made an almost general insurrection against him: among these, Baldwin de Riparis (or Rivers) Earl of Devon, fortified the castle of Exeter; and the citizens, taking part with the Empress Maud, refused the King admittance into their city: he immediately invested it with a great army, and laid close siege to it. This siege continued for upwards of two months: at length the inhabitants were compelled by famine to surrender: Earl Baldwin fled to the isle of Wight, to which the King followed him, drove him thence, and banished him with his whole family, Baldwin returned in the reign of Henry 2d. and enjoyed all his lands and honors; and we find that he possessed, in the county of Devon, no less than 159 lordships; and had in the city of Exeter 19 houses.

1135.

Distress of  
the country

The War between Stephen and the Empress Maud, continued until the year 1153, with various success of the contending parties. Every petty Baron, or Lord of a manor, fortifying his house, or castle, from whence, by frequent sallies, they plundered the surrounding country: robbed the travellers; and committed the most horrid depredations on those poor defenceless inhabitants, who refused to join them, or become their retainers.

The neighbouring barons often engaged in pitched battles; so that the whole kingdom was a scene of blood and horror until the death of Prince Eustace, only son of Stephen; when a reconciliation took place among the contending parties, and Stephen adopted Henry, son of the Empress Maud, for his successor; securing to himself the English crown till his death.

During the continuance of these civil commotions, the city of Exeter stood firm to the interest of the Empress; and

and, for many years after her decease, held an anniversary to her memory, called *Queen Maud's* obiit day. CHAP. II.

*Stephen* did not long enjoy the happiness of peace: he died in the following year, and was succeeded by *Henry* the *Empress Maud's* son: he was the first King of the line of the *Plantagenets*; and his accession to the throne was with the universal satisfaction of his subjects, as he had the advantage of being descended both from the *Saxon* and *Norman* Kings of *England*. A. D.  
1154.  
Henry 2d.

He began his reign by clearing the kingdom of the great number of foreigners, who had been invited over to the assistance of the late king; and by reducing the power of the overgrown barons: he took their castles into his own hands: most of them he ordered to be demolished, reserving only those which he thought proper for the defence of the kingdom: the number of those demolished, amounted to 1115, (according to *Speed*.) Among those he possessed in his own hands, was that of *Exeter*; which he strongly fortified by additional works; and to reward the citizens for their steady adherence to the cause of his mother, he confirmed their former privileges, and granted them a new charter, by which they were exempted from all customs and town duties, throughout the whole kingdom of *England*, both by land and water: he also granted them to enjoy the same rights and immunities which had been possessed by their ancestors before the *Norman* conquest; and which they had been deprived of, by preceding monarchs: he gave them the custody of the castle, with liberty to strengthen the walls, and fortifications: thus during his long reign of 35 years, this city flourished, increased its commerce, and had the blessings of peace, notwithstanding the troubles which his disobedient sons, and turbulent barons occasioned to their Monarch. Speed's  
History of  
England.  
  
New charter  
granted by  
Hen. 2d.

*Henry* ordered that every citizen possessed of a knight's fee, should provide a pair of cuirasses, helmet, shield and spear: and every layman that had goods and revenues, to the value of 16 marks, a pair of cuirasses, helmet and shield; and every inhabitant worth 10 marks, an habergeon, a steel cap, and a spear, that they might at all times be ready to defend the city committed to their care. Henry's order to the  
citizens to  
provide  
themselves  
with arms  
&c.

In the year 1164, *William Fitz Ralph* founded an Alms-house in this city, for certain poor people; and dedicated it to *St. Alexis*: † this foundation continued about 70 years, 1164.

† It is probable that this house was situated in *Gandy's Lane*,



CHAP. II. years, when it was dissolved, and added, by the Mayor and citizens, to the then newly erected hospital of *St. John*, within the East-gate.

St. James's  
Priory  
founded. About the same period *Baldwin de Rivers*, Earl of *Devon* founded the priory of *St. James*, near *Exeter*, for monks of the Cluniac order, which he endowed with great revenues; the said foundation was confirmed by the Empress *Maud*, *Richard*, son of the founder, and *Robert Chichester*, bishop of *Exeter*, A. D. 1156, it was a cell to the Abbey of *St. Martin* at *Paris*, until made denizen in the reign of *Henry* the fifth.

A. D.  
1189. The church of this priory was destroyed by *Richard Duke*, of *Mount Radford*, Esq. for sake of the materials. Great part of the old buildings remained until the year 1760; when they were taken down, and a farm-house erected on the scite: it is still termed the old Abbey; and a dam across the river *Exe*, is still called *St. James's* wear.

Richard 1. King *Henry* died in *Normandy*, A. D. 1189; and was succeeded by his Son, *Richard*, surnamed *Cœur de lion*: he confirmed the privileges granted by his father to this city: but soon after his coronation, he engaged in a crusade for the recovery of the *Holy land*, then recently conquered from the *Christians* by the *Saracens*. In this he was followed by great numbers of his barons with their retainers; and though it drained the nation of such a multitude of its useful inhabitants; yet it was attended with consequences highly beneficial to the remainder. The survivors, who returned, brought home with them many useful arts and manufactories, before unknown: and which contributed greatly to soften the ferocious manners of the people, as well as, increase their commerce.

The city of *Exeter* had a great share of the blessing; and its opulence was most considerably enlarged, together with the number of its inhabitants. The authors of that time mention it as a city, respectable for its trade, strength and number of inhabitants; and a place of the first consequence in the western parts of *England*.

Charters  
first granted  
to different  
Trades. This King, as well as his Father, increased the freedom of the people, and diminished the power of the barons, by granting corporation charters, from which, the different trades were formed into guilds, or fraternities, (as they were then called) and had great and exclusive privileges. The people now began to have some share of power and weight in

anciently called *St. Lucie's Lane*; a common abridgement for *St. Alexis*.

in the government; and this greatly lessened the feudal system, and raised the opulence of the Cities, and Borough towns. CHAP. II.

In the latter part of this King's reign, there was almost a continual rain, for three or four years successively; which occasioned such a scarcity of corn, that wheat was sold at 18s. 8d. the qr. (a sum, almost equivalent to 4l. at this present time;) this brought on a great mortality among the common people, insomuch that the living were scarce able to bury the dead.

*Richard*, after great successes in the *Holy land*, (where the English gained immortal honor) was treacherously deserted by the *French King*; and obliged to enter into a truce with *Saladine*, Emperor of the *Saracens*, for three years. On his return home, he was shipwrecked on the coast of *Aquileia*, in *Italy*; and attempting to travel in disguise through *Germany*, he was discovered, and basely imprisoned, by *Leopold*, Duke of *Austria*, who kept him close confined for upwards of 15 months, until the sum of 150,000 marks was agreed on, to be paid for his ransom; this sum was cheerfully raised by his subjects; the churches and monasteries melting down their plate; and the rest by voluntary contributions; the quota raised by the citizens of *Exeter*, (as mentioned by *Rymer* in his *Fœdera*) amounted to near 1000 marks: a convincing proof of its opulence at this period.

*Richard* returned from his captivity, in the year 1194; and was received by his subjects with great joy. In return for their loyalty in his distress, he confirmed their privileges; in particular of those cities which had most distinguished themselves towards his release: among those, the city of *Exeter* is mentioned, "the King granted them a new charter, which confirmed to them all their ancient rights and privileges." *Richard* was killed by an arrow shot from a cross bow, at the siege of a castle in *France*; and was succeeded by his brother *John*.

A. D.  
1194.

New charter granted.

1199.

John.

*John* on his accession, endeavoured to curtail the influence of the Barons, and to curb the power of the clergy: the latter, in those days of ignorance and superstition having usurped almost the whole government into their own hands. *John*, by this step created many enemies; and the whole kingdom was thrown into the miseries of an intestine war. *John* being greatly necessitated for money to pay the foreign auxiliaries, brought over to his assistance, exacted enormous contributions from his subjects; and this, added to the intrigues of the church of *Rome* (and the rebellious instruments of the then Pope,

CHAP. II. Pope, *Innocent*, the Bishops of *London*, *Bath*, and *Winchester* having put the whole kingdom under an interdict of excommunication) occasioned nearly a general revolt from his authority.

A. D.  
1200.

New charter, with power to choose a Mayor &c.

Thus situated, *John* endeavoured to secure to his interest the principal cities and borough towns, by enlarging their privileges, granting fresh charters, and giving them power to choose their own magistrates: in consequence a charter was granted to the citizens of *Essex*, in the year 1200, by which they were empowered to elect yearly, a chief magistrate by the name of *Mayor*; and two *Bailiffs*, or *Stewards*. Before this, the *Provosts*, or *Rulers* (from the time of the *Norman* conquest) were nominated by the Earls of *Devon*, which gave them great influence over the citizens: but, from this year, the list of Mayors and Bailiffs commences; and which has continued to the present time without any interruption. The charter was, nearly, in the following words.

“*John* by the grace of God, greeting. Know ye that we have granted, and by this our present writing do confirm to our citizens of our city of *Essex*. That they may choose to themselves every year a Mayor, who to us may be faithful, discreet and fit for the government of our said city; and likewise, that they may, and do choose two discreet and sober citizens, to assist the said Mayor, in the office of Bailiffs: and that the said Mayor and Bailiffs shall swear to be faithful to us: and that it shall be lawful for the said citizens, at the end of the year, to remove the said Mayor or Bailiffs, and substitute others in their room if they will, or the same to retain. We likewise and hereby do grant unto our said citizens, and by this present charter do confirm, that they well, and in peace, freely and quietly, and wholly have all the liberties, gabels and customs, (reserving to ourselves, the fee-farm rents, and the appointment of a coroner of our said city) which have been granted to them by our predecessors. †”

Distress of the nation.

The ill government of the King, gave great discontent to the Barons: they assembled a powerful army; and *John* strengthened himself with a number of foreigners, who flocked to his standard, for the sake of the plunder which, they promised themselves, they should obtain from the unhappy *English*.

† There is no date affixed to this charter; but as it is evident, that *Henry Rifford* was Mayor in the year 1200, and that this charter was granted by King *John*, there can be no doubt of its being the original grant to Elect their chief Magistrate by that name; which was 13 years before the like privilege was granted to the city of *London*: as it appears by the charter granted to the Barons of *London*, in the year 1213.

*English.* The whole kingdom was a scene of rapine and bloodshed: every petty Baron fortifying his castle, and bidding defiance to the laws; while the King, at the head of a ferocious army of unprincipled foreigners, ravaged the country. In this state of confusion, numbers flocked for refuge to the fortified cities and boroughs; where, after residing a year and a day unclaimed by the Lords to whom they were vassals, they were enrolled in the guilds; and enjoyed all the privileges and franchises of the former citizens and burgesses. By this means the Cities and towns increased greatly in the number of inhabitants, as well as in their opulence; every valuable moveable having been conveyed into them for the sake of security. The city of *Exeter* continued steadfast in its loyalty to the King, and flourished in population and wealth.

Exeter increases in Population.

*John* having by the help of his foreign troops dispossessed the Barons of most of their castles and fortified places; they, in despair solicited help from *Philip*, King of *France*, who, hoping to add *England* to his other dominions, sent over his son *Lewis*, at the head of 40,000 troops: these were joined by the barons, with all their forces; and the citizens of *London* deserting the King, received *Lewis* within their walls. The Pope again interdicted the whole nation: by this terrible sentence a stop was immediately put to divine service, and the administering of all the sacraments, except baptism; the church doors were shut, and the images of the Saints laid on the ground. The dead were refused burial; and were thrown into ditches, and on the highways without any funeral ceremony. Marriages was celebrated in the church-yards: the people were forbid the use of flesh meats: they were debarred from all pleasure; from shaving their beards; saluting each other, and were absolved from all allegiance to their sovereign.

Hollingshead.

The Pope excommunicates the whole kingdom.

Notwithstanding this deplorable state, when plunder, destruction and slavery overspread the whole kingdom like a deluge, the citizens of *Exeter* continued firm in the King's interest, and refused admittance to the revolted barons, or their adherents. In the year 1216, the King sent a commission to *Robert de Courtenay*, who was at that time *Viscount* of *Devon* and governor of *Exeter* castle, to take into the said city, *William Brewere*, with all his forces, if he thought his own, with that of the citizens were not sufficient for the defence thereof; and that, if he could not defend the city, then to retire into the castle. In the same year the King commanded *Peter de Malolan* to deliver to the chaplain of *Robert de Courtenay*, thirty pounds to pay the

A. D.  
1216.

Commission sent to the Earl of Devon to defend Exeter.

Money sent to pay the Soldiers in the castle.

E

the

CHAP. II. the garrison soldiers in the castle of *Exeter*. In the midst of these confusions, *John* left life, and his troublesome crown; and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Henry*. §

*MAYORS* and *BAILIFFS* in the reign of King *John*.

1200.	1206.	1212.
<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>John Fitz Robert.</i>
<i>Walter Zooch.</i>	<i>Henry Jennings.</i>	<i>Richard Forrester.</i>
<i>Peter Way.</i>	<i>George Spelman.</i>	<i>Andrew Thring.</i>
1201.	1207.	1213.
<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>William Blondy.</i>
<i>Thomas Erming.</i>	<i>Stephen Weildy.</i>	<i>Henry Milton.</i>
<i>Jeffery Wayland.</i>	<i>John Fitzhenry.</i>	<i>John Treby.</i>
1202.	1208.	1214.
<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>John Fitz Robert.</i>	<i>William Blondy.</i>
<i>Abraham Ayloff.</i>	<i>Adam Lyford.</i>	<i>William Might.</i>
<i>Richard Perkins.</i>	<i>Thomas Gyllam.</i>	<i>John Molton.</i>
1203.	1209.	1215.
<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>John Fitz Robert.</i>	<i>William Blondy.</i>
<i>Thomas Nevil.</i>	<i>Walter Delve.</i>	<i>Roger Needham.</i>
<i>Aldred Skinner.</i>	<i>Peter Dyer.</i>	<i>Walter Bender.</i>
1204.	1210.	1216.
<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>John Fitz Robert.</i>	<i>Walter Turbett.</i>
<i>William Robins.</i>	<i>Richard Kerswell.</i>	<i>Laurence Elkin.</i>
<i>William Legrave.</i>	<i>Henry Atwood.</i>	<i>Richard Falson.</i>
1205.	1211.	
<i>Henry Rifford.</i>	<i>John Fitz Robert.</i>	
<i>John Mellifluer.</i>	<i>John Thurland.</i>	
<i>Walter Delve.</i>	<i>William Rugg.</i>	

A. D. *John*, at his decease, left two legitimate sons, *Henry*, who  
1216. succeeded his father; and *Richard*, afterwards Earl of *Cornwall*.

*Henry*

§ It is not mentioned by any of our historians whether King *John* ever had any personal residence in *Exeter*: but there is a very ancient tradition, that in his troubles, he resided for some time in an old house, in *South-gate-street*, then called *Cook-row*: it is now occupied by Mr. *Henry Flashman*, Cabinet-maker: it is further said that from *John's* residing there, it obtained its name of *King John's* palace, or entry.

*Henry* was accordingly proclaimed *King*, by the Earl of *Pembroke*, marshal of the late *King's* army, and such other barons, who had continued in their allegiance; and was crowned at *Gloucester*. His party was greatly increased by 40 of the principal barons, who had been in arms against his father, who taking compassion on the *King's* youth, and the miserable state of their country: being also disgusted with the arrogance of *Lewis*, and his *French* followers; deserted their cause, and joined the Royal standard: this decrease of *Lewis's* army obliged him to sue for a truce, and hasten to *France* for supplies.

During his absence, his army, and the discontented barons, were totally defeated by the *King's* troops, at *Lincoln*. *Lewis* is returned; but his supplies being cut off at sea, by a fleet which had been fitted out from the *Cinque ports*, and western coasts, he was forced to sue for peace, and abandon the kingdom, leaving the rebellious barons, and their associates to the mercy of the royal party.

Peace being thus happily established, the young *King* began to shew great marks of his favor to the city of *Exeter*, as a reward for its stedfast loyalty to his Father, by granting the citizens a fresh charter; in which he not only renewed, but increased, their privileges.

This year there was a great contest between *Henry*, son of *Reginald*, Earl of *Cornwall*, and *Robert de Courtenay*, Viscount of *Devon*, concerning the government of the castle of *Exeter*, which *Robert de Courtenay* claimed as his hereditary right, descending to him from his ancestors: this, *Henry* took from him, and kept it for some time. At length, however, by command of the *King*, it was delivered up to the said *Robert de Courtenay*, as being part of his barony of *Oakhampton*. Notwithstanding this order of the *King* the contest continued; but, on the 28th of March 1219, the *King* committed the custody of the said castle and county of *Devon*, to *Robert de Albermarle*: however, in the month of May following, *Robert de Courtenay* was put in full possession of it again; and this was confirmed by the *King's* grant, A. D. 1223.

This year the parishes of the city of *Exeter* were regulated; and the parish churches reduced to 19.

*Stephen Langton*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, a native of this City, divided the whole Bible into chapters.

This year, the *King* gave the city of *Exeter*, to his Brother, *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall* and King of the *Romans*, and to his heirs for ever; of which Earldom and Dutchy, it hath ever since continued a part; and it is now held of the said Dutchy, *Exeter* given to *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*.

CHAP. II. Dutchy, by the Mayor, Bailiffs, and citizens paying an annual fee farm rent at the said Dutchy court.

A. D.  
1230.

Great scar-  
city.

Speed.

1236.

Polsloe prio-  
ry founded.

The harvests having failed for two succeeding years, owing to continual rains, which caused great overflowings of the rivers, there was so great a scarcity of provisions, that the people were reduced to the greatest distress; being obliged to eat *horse-flesh*, and to substitute *barks of trees for bread*: a great mortality consequently ensued, and (it is recorded) upwards of 20,000 persons were starved to death, in the city of London only.

About the year 1236, *William Brewer*, Bishop of Exeter, founded a priory of *Benedictine Nuns*, at *Polsloe* (now *Polsloe*) near the said city; which he dedicated to *St. Catherine*. He also gave to the said priory, the valuable manor of *Polsloe*; and it was enriched by many other benefactors: it continued until the general suppression of monasteries. Great part of the ancient building is still standing; and is converted into a farm house: it is now the property of *Montague Parker Esq.* it was valued at the dissolution, according to *Speed*, at 170*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* per annum, but, *Risdon*, in his survey of *Devon*, says, only 72*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*

King *Henry* as he advanced in years assumed the government into his own hands; and proved very unfit for the arduous task. He was in his temper, mild and humane; but weak, fickle and irresolute; and highly disgusted his subjects by the preference he gave to foreigners, numbers of whom he invited over from *Normandy*, and preferred to the most lucrative offices in church and state. The disgust rose to such a height, that the barons refused to assemble at a general council of the nation, though summoned by the King; and sent a messenger to desire him to dismiss his foreigners, or otherwise they would drive both them, and him, out of the kingdom. The differences between the King and his barons, continued for many years; and, *Robert de Courtenay*, who held the castle of *Exeter*, joining the other barons against the King, was ordered to deliver up the said castle to *Peter de Rivaux*, a *Poictovin*, who was at that time the chief favorite at court; and who had engrossed most of the great offices of state to himself. The Lord *Courtenay*, being now unable to resist the King's power, was compelled to submit; and was deprived of the government of the castle, which had been enjoyed by him and his ancestors for upwards of 200 years.

The Castle  
of Exeter  
taken from  
the Lord  
*Courtenay*.

1255.

In the year 1255, the Pope having treacherously reduced the kingdom of *Sicily* to a state of vassalage, offered

ferred the crown to King Henry, for his second son *Edward*. The King, dazzled by this proposal, accepted the offer, without consulting his parliament, and gave the Pope unlimited credit to expend whatever sums he thought necessary for completing the conquest of *Sicily*: in consequence of this grant, his holiness exerted his apostolical authority to the utmost, and extorted vast sums of money from the *English*, by taxations both on the clergy and laity: added to this, the Bishop of *Hereford*, then resident at the court of *Rome*, drew bills on the Bishops and Abbots to the amount of 150,540 marks (an amazing sum in those days) which the Pope pretended he had advanced for the support of the *Sicilian* war. This occasioned an assembly of the Prelates and Abbots, when they refused compliance, and joined the barons against the King; but, through the artful persuasions of the Pope's legate the Clergy submitted, and the Barons were compelled to have recourse to their arms, after expostulating in vain against the misgovernment of the King and his foreign ministers.

Barons appear in arms against the King.

Driven to great exigencies for the want of money to pay his foreign mercenaries, and to satisfy the avarice of the court of *Rome*, Henry was reduced to the most humiliating expedient of going himself to the houses of such, as he judged continued faithful to him; and begging their assistance. The Barons pitied the distress of their Monarch; and once more desired him to call a parliament. The King complied with their request; promised to redress all their grievances, and renew the great charter of the people; and this was accordingly fulfilled with more than usual solemnity. All the Bishops and Abbots were assembled with burning tapers in their hands, the *Great Charter* was read in their presence: and they denounced sentence of excommunication upon all who should make the least infringement of its contents: they then put their tapers out, on the ground, and exclaimed, "*may every soul that proves false to this agreement, so stink, and corrupt in hell!*" the King subjoined, "*so help me God, I will inviolably keep all these things, as I am a man, as I am a christian, as I am a knight, and as I am a King crowned and anointed.*"

Dreadful Oath.

Henry had no sooner received the supplies granted to him, than he forgot his late engagements to his people: he evaded and broke through all the charters which he had solemnly sworn to maintain: he gave himself up entirely to the directions of his foreign ministers; and garrisoned the principal castles with mercenary foreign soldiers. The *English* nobility were so exasperated, that they formed a powerful confederacy

Barons again take arms.



## CHAP. II

Richard,  
Earl of  
Cornwall  
garrisons  
Exeter Cas-  
tle.

confederacy against him, headed by *Simon Mountfort*, Earl of *Leicester*; and to which the King's own brother, *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*, and King of the *Romans* acceded, and for his better security, retired into the castle of *Exeter*, which (after having turned out the foreign governor and soldiers) he strongly fortified.

The King, alarmed by the great preparations making against him, once more promised to govern in conformity to the laws, and to redress the grievances of his subjects. He, accordingly issued his orders for assembling a new parliament; by which it was enacted that four knights should be returned for each county, and that there should be three sessions held every year; that a new High Sheriff should be annually elected for each shire; that no garrison or castle within the kingdom should be intrusted to foreigners; no new forest made, nor the revenues of any counties be let to farm.

The principal barons, having, by these concessions, obtained the government into their own hands, took care not to part with it again; but they greatly abused the trust, not only abridging the authority of the King, but the efficiency of Parliament also. They elected twelve of their members, who usurped all the power of government; and who instead of redressing the peoples' grievances, studied only their own interest and aggrandizement. The clergy and commons were justly incensed against them; and they petitioned Prince *Edward* the King's eldest son, to interpose his authority, and save the sinking nation.

The people loudly complained of the tyranny of the barons; and, the Pope having absolved the King and his subjects from the oath imposed upon him and them, another parliament was convened; and the King reinstated in his authority. The differences between him and the barons continued for more than 4 years: several bloody battles were fought: in one of which, the King and his brother *Richard* (who had been reconciled to him) were taken prisoners by *Leicester*. In this miserable condition the kingdom continued until the year 1265; when *Leicester*, in order to secure himself, called a parliament: in which, besides the barons of his own party, he ordered returns to be made of two knights from every shire; and also deputies from each of the cities and boroughs. This parliament was convened on the 20th of January, 1265; and is the first outline of the *English* house of commons, that great palladium of *British* liberty!

A. D.  
1265.

House of  
Commons  
first insti-  
tuted.

The

The King and Prince Edward still continued prisoners; and were treated by *Leicester* with great severity: but the Prince, escaping from his confinement, was soon at the head of a numerous army: he gave *Leicester* battle near *Evesham* in *Worcestershire*, where he obtained a complete victory. *Leicester* and his eldest son were both slain: and the surviving barons submitting themselves to the King, on the promise of his fulfilling the articles of the great charter, civil discord ceased; and to the great joy of the nation, peace was once more restored, which continued for the remainder of this King's reign.

During the time of these unhappy differences, *Exeter* continued firm in the King's interest; to which the almost constant residence of *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall* in *Exeter* castle, greatly contributed; and the barons made no attempt on it, though they committed great devastations in its neighbourhood. The King, in return for its loyalty, renewed their charters; granted fresh privileges, which were confirmed by the King's brother, *Rishard*, to whom he had given this city, as an appendage to his Earldom of *Cornwall*; and the Earl greatly interested himself at all times in favor of the citizens.\*

Charter renewed.

Confirmed by the Earl of Cornwall.

In 1234, The Plague was brought into this kingdom by the crusaders returning from the *Holy land*; and made great ravages in this city, as more than two thirds of the inhabitants died by it. In 1238, the Hospital of *St. John* was founded by *Gilbert* and *John Long*, sons of *Walter Long*, of this city: they endowed the same with all their lands. *Speed* says it was dedicated to *St. John the Baptist*, and that it was a house of *Franciscan Friars*. It continued till the dissolution of monasteries in the 27 King *Henry 8*; when there appeared to be on the foundation 4 poor alms-men, who had yearly  $\text{£}1\text{s. } 8\text{d.}$  each, during their lives: this pay was continued by the crown: and *Queen Elizabeth*, by her letters patent dated 8th November 1562, confirmed the same, and granted to the Mayor and Aldermen the nomination of the said alms-men; (the cell of *St. Alexis*, for two monks, was united to the said hospital) and it was valued at  $102\text{l. } 12\text{s. } 9\text{d.}$  per annum, according to *Speed*; and the hospital at  $147\text{l. } 12\text{s.}$  *Dugliss*, in

A great plague.

St John's Hospital founded.

\* The Reader, I hope, will pardon my inserting some matters here, which, in point of chronology, ought to have been inserted before, but I was unwilling to break the course of this account of the Barons' wars; in which, though the city of *Exeter* seems to have so little concern, I must beg leave to say, that these frequent recourses to arms, called in the interference of the commons; and that to this we owe the great and peculiar privileges, granted by charters to our cities and boroughs, which we now enjoy.

**CHAP. II.** in his *Monasticon*, tells us, it was an hospital for five priests, 9 boys, and 12 poor alms-men.

**Isaac.**

Controversy settled concerning the fee of St. Sidwell.

In 1248, A long contest which had been depending in law, between the *Mayor and citizens*, Plaintiffs; and the *Dean and Chapter of St. Peter*, Defendants, concerning the fee and liberties of *St. Sidwell*, was now ended by composition made at *Launceston*, before *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*; *Richard*, Bishop of *Exeter*; *Roger Tinkleby*; *Gilbert Preston*, and *John Cobham*, the King's Justices of Assize, as followeth.

1. The tenants of the *Dean and Chapter*, dwelling within the city and suburbs of the same, and who do occupy any Art, Trade, or Mystery, shall at all Taxes and Talliages, be taxed and assessed with the citizens, so that the said taxation be just and indifferent.

2. Also that the Bailiff of the said *Dean and Chapter*, shall levy, gather, and receive the tax, and pay it over to the *Mayor* of the said city, or his officers: but if the said Bailiff be remiss or negligent, then the officers of the *Mayor* shall, and may levy and collect the same.

3. Also, that an indifferent man shall be chosen by each party, to be the common bailiff for them both, who on his oath shall yearly gather, and from time to time collect of all the said *Dean and Chapters'* tenants, the customs of *Bagavel*, *Bethugavel* and *Cheapongavel*.

4. Also, that all Plaints entered against any of the *Dean and Chapters'* tenants within the said city, shall be tried and determined before the *Mayor and Bailiffs*.

5. Also, that all Plaints entered against any of the *Dean and Chapters'* tenants, dwelling within the fee of *St. Sidwell*, shall be determined before the Bailiffs thereof.

6. Also, if any of the tenants of the said *Dean and Chapter*, being *Bakers*, or *Brewers*, are to be punished for breach of the Assize, in the Pillory, or Tumbrel: the same, on the request of the *Mayor*, to be done within the city.

7. Also, all pleas of the *Crown* to be determined by the *Mayor*.

**LASTLY**, All traitors, murderers and felons, that shall be found within the said fee, to be apprehended by the Bailiff, and by him to be brought, and delivered over to the *Mayor*.

Exe-bridge founded.

**A. D. 1257**, *Walter Gervois Esq.* who had been twice *Mayor* of this city, commiserating the loss of many persons who were drowned in crossing the river *Ere*, at the ford, the lower end of the city (there being only a ferry at this time, and many poor people, in order to save the ferryman's fee, attempting to ford the river) he procured a collection through-  
out

out the *Diocess*, whereby he raised 3000 marks; which he managed with such care, that he caused to be erected a fair *Bridge*; and purchased lands towards its maintenance: he further by his last will, gave other lands of his own for the support of the said bridge for ever, appointing the *Bishop of Exeter*, *Sir William Bickley*, Knight, and others, Executors of his said will. He also caused a Chapel to be built at the East end of the said bridge, in which he was interred. †

A. D. 1258. The number of officers, joined with the Mayor, for the government of the city augmented to three. CHAP. II.  
Number of Stewards augmented.

A. D. 1263. The said officers were augmented to four; of which, one to be Receiver-general, for that year, of all the city's rents and revenues: at the same time, four Sergeants at mace (who were termed Sub-bailiffs) were appointed, to be always in readiness to attend the Mayor and his courts. Further augmented.  
Sergeants at mace appointed.

A. D. 1267. *Nicholas Ilchester* died in his mayoralty, and *Walter Chew* was chosen in his place, to serve the office for the remainder of the year.

A long dispute, was this year settled by composition, between the abbot and convent of *Sherborn*, and the Mayor, and commonalty of this city, concerning the passage or ferry at *Exmouth*: when it was agreed that the said abbot, should disclaim all title and interest to the said ferry, only reserving a free passage to the said abbot and convent, and their families, without payment of any thing: provided that if the city's passenger be not ready, nor their passage boat in place, to set them over; that then, at their own liberty, they may take any other boat for that season.

King *Henry* died, and was succeeded by his eldest Son, *Edward*. A. D. 1272.

### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of HENRY III.

1217.	1219.	1221.
<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i>	<i>Walter Turbert.</i>	<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i>
<i>William Green.</i>	<i>John Mintin,</i>	<i>William Grang.</i>
<i>Thomas Courtys.</i>	<i>Stephen Lake.</i>	<i>William Facy.</i>
1218.	1220.	1222.
<i>Walter Gervis.</i>	<i>Walter Turbert.</i>	<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i>
<i>Philip Dyrling.</i>	<i>Walter Bellamy.</i>	<i>Henry Fitzhenry.</i>
<i>Martin Lekenn.</i>	<i>Robert Field.</i>	<i>William Hastment.</i>
	F	1223.

† This chapel was not built on the scite of the present church; but on the other side of the way, and is now converted into a dwelling house, occupied by Robert Andrews, a Whitesmith, very visible remains of its ancient sacred state are still to be seen. The present parish church was not erected till near 100 years after.

CHAP. II.

1223.	1232.	1241.
<i>Walter Gervis.</i> <i>Walter Tuleston.</i> <i>Roger Monk.</i>	<i>Walter Turbert.</i> <i>Walter Le caws.</i> <i>Jermin Roff.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Thomas Pitcher.</i> <i>Walter Molton.</i>
1224.	1233.	1242.
<i>Walter Turbert.</i> <i>Hillary Blondy.</i> <i>Martin Roff.</i>	<i>Hillary Blondy.</i> <i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Walter Le caws.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Philip Dyer.</i> <i>Thomas le Pointon.</i>
1225.	1234.	1243.
<i>Walter Turbert.</i> <i>William Hastment.</i> <i>John Turbert.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Walter Grang.</i> <i>Philip Dyer.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Philip Dyer.</i> <i>Walter Molton.</i>
1226.	1235.	1244.
<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i> <i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>William Hastment.</i>	<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i> <i>Adam Rifford.</i> <i>Walter Grang.</i>	<i>Adam Rifford.</i> <i>Philip Dyer.</i> <i>Walter Okeston.</i>
1227.	1236.	1245.
<i>Walter Turbert.</i> <i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>John Turbert.</i>	<i>Walter Turbert.</i> <i>John Caporn.</i> <i>John Leyden.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Robert Molton.</i> <i>Robert Spew.</i>
1228.	1237.	1246.
<i>Walter Turbert.</i> <i>Hillary Blondy.</i> <i>William Hastment.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Jeffery Strange.</i> <i>Thomas Pitcher.</i>	<i>Adam Rifford.</i> <i>John Okeston.</i> <i>Philip Dyer.</i>
1229.	1238.	1247.
<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i> <i>John Turbert.</i> <i>Walter Gervis.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Walter Chanon.</i> <i>Philip Palmer.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Baldwin Child.</i> <i>Walter Okeston.</i>
1230.	1239.	1248.
<i>Roger Fitzhenry.</i> <i>Hillary Blondy.</i> <i>Walter Gervis.</i>	<i>Walter Gervis.</i> <i>John Bushett.</i> <i>John Okeston.</i>	<i>Walter Hastment.</i> <i>Walter Good.</i> <i>Hillary White.</i>
1231.	1240.	1249.
<i>Walter Gervis.</i> <i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Eustace Fitzherbert</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Thomas Pitcher.</i> <i>Walter Molton.</i>	<i>Martin Roff.</i> <i>Philip Dyer.</i> <i>Walter Okeston.</i>

1250.

1250.	Walter Chaw.	Philip Blebuch.
<i>Adam Rifford,</i>	Geffery Straung.	Richard Tantifer.
John Okeston.	Martin Dirling.	John Pudding.
Robert Taylor.	1260.	1267.
1251.	<i>Walter Okeston.</i>	<i>Nich. Ilchester Ob.</i>
<i>Adam Rifford.</i>	Martin Dirling.	<i>Walter Chaw.</i>
John Okeston.	Nicholas Ilchester.	Philip Palmer.
Philip Dyer.	Thomas Langdon.	Thomas Langdon.
1252.	1261.	Richard Newton.
<i>Martin Roff.</i>	<i>Hillary White.</i>	Hugh Langdon.
Philip Dyer.	Richard Valtian.	1268.
Thomas Pintin.	John Pudding.	<i>Walter Okeston.</i>
1253.	Philip Palmer.	Richard Tantifer.
<i>Adam Rifford.</i>	1262.	Hugh Falcon.
John Okeston.	<i>Walter Okeston.</i>	William Pening.
John Windsor.	William Jeffery.	John Cook.
1254.	Roger Fitzhugh.	1269.
<i>John Okeston.</i>	Walter Minson.	<i>Alfred Dupont.</i>
Baldwin Child.	1263.	J. Barkhampstead.
Rowland Overwill.	<i>Nicholas Ilchester.</i>	Richard Tantifer.
1255.	John Okeston.	Philip Palmer.
<i>Hillary Blondy.</i>	Richard Tantifer.	John Clark.
Walter Chaw.	John Feniton.	1270.
Martin Roff jun.	Martin Dirling.	<i>Martin Dirling.</i>
1256.	1264.	Richard Tantifer.
<i>Philip Dyer.</i>	<i>Philip Dyer.</i>	Philip Clark.
Thomas Houghton	John Okeston.	Hugh Falcon.
Richard Arnold.	Walter Okeston.	William Pening.
1257.	John Windsor.	1271.
<i>Hillary Blondy.</i>	Jervis Pintham.	<i>Martin Dirling.</i>
Eustace Fitzherbert	1265.	Richard Tantifer.
Richard Poyters.	<i>Walter Okeston.</i>	William Powell.
1258.	John Okeston.	John Cook.
<i>Hillary Blondy.</i>	Martin Dirling.	Hugh Falcon.
Roger Fitzhenry.	Thomas Gatepath.	1272.
Walter Chaw.	Richard Tantifer.	<i>Martin Darling.</i>
John Caporn.	1266.	John Feniton.
1259.	<i>William Dirling.</i>	Thomas Gatepath.
<i>Philip Dyer.</i>	John Feniton.	Richard Allen.
		Hugh Falcon.

**CHAP. II.** Prince *Edward* was in *Sicily*, on his return from the *Holy land*, when he received the news of his Father's death; and knowing the tranquility that prevailed in his dominions, made no haste in returning home; but staid upwards of a year in *France*.

Edward 1.

A. D.  
1272.

1273.

This year, *Oliver*, Lord *Dinkam* (a very potent Baron in the late wars) died in this city; and was buried in the church of the *Black*, or preaching friars (late *Bedford house*) on the north side of the high altar; and soon after, his Lady, widow of the Lord *John de Courtenay*, was buried opposite her husband, in the same church.

1274.

*Edward* returned to *England*; was received by his subjects with the greatest joy, and crowned at *Westminster* on the 19th August, 1274. He began his reign by endeavouring to correct those disorders, which the civil commotions, and weak administration of his Father had occasioned. He kept up a system of the strictest justice; yet he is charged with being too severe to the *Jews*, by oppressing them with arbitrary *taxes*. He caused 280 of them to be hanged at one time, for adulterating the coin; confiscated the goods of all the rest, and banished them the Kingdom. Many families of whom, at that time resided in *Exeter*.

Jews banished the Kingdom.

1275.

Town dues granted.

This year the King confirmed the charters formerly granted to this city; and by his letters patent dated 10th March, renewed to the Mayor and citizens, liberty to collect a toll from all manner of wares and merchandize brought into it to be sold, towards the *paving the streets*, *repairing the walls*, and *maintaining* the said city: this, in old English is termed *Bagavel*, *Bothugavel*, and *Cheespengavel*.

1276.

Lammas fair.

The King, by his letters patent, ordered an inquisition to be here held, to enquire out certain lands and liberties concealed: when it was found by verdict, that *Crolditch*, alias *Lammas fair*, ‡ was divided into two moities, or halfen deals between

‡ *Fairs* owe their origin to an institution of Pope *Gregory*, (surnamed the great,) who soon after the conversion of the *Angle Saxons* to Christianity, and being well acquainted with their predilection for their ancient customs of revelling and carousing on particular days, dedicated to their false deities; recommended to *Augustine*, that there should be an annual celebrity in all parishes, on the vigils of the Saints days to whom their churches were dedicated. And for the accommodation of the visitors, small pavilions were constructed of boughs in the Church-yards; in which they spent their nights, after prayers, in all kinds of pastime and carousals; from whence they were termed *wakes*. Hence we find that most of our *Marts* and *Fairs*, are held on some Festival, or Saint's day: to these revels the people resorted in great crowds, and great quantities of provision would consequently be wanted for their entertainment. The prospect of gain invited the little traders of the neighbour-

between King John and this commonality; and that King John resumed the whole into his own hands, and gave it to the prior and convent of *St. Nicholas*. This fair was annually kept on *Southernhay*; beginning the last day in July, at noon, and continued two whole days and a half, following: it is very ancient, and was much noted before the conquest: and was, at that time, the sole property of the commonality of this city; as appears by Doomsday-book, still remaining in *Westminster Abbey*. This fair being thus divided into moieties, at length came into the hands of the *Earls of Devon*, and the prior &c. of *St. Nicholas*. Thus it continued till the reign of *Henry 8th* when, at the suppression of the said priory, the moiety belonging to it was purchased by the Mayor and Commonality of this city: the other, on the attainder of *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*, in the year 1535, reverted into the King's hands, as a parcel of the manor of *Tapsham*; and was given to *Northmore Esq.* and was lately purchased, together with the said manor, by the Chamber of *Exeter*, who are now the sole proprietors; and they, about 7 years since, removed the said fair from *Crolditch*, alias, *Southernhay*, into the High-street. On the scite where the fair was formerly held, an elegant pile of buildings is erected. The ancient privileges belonging to this fair are, as follow.

1. It shall continue for two whole days and two half days, beginning at 12 o'clock on Lammas eve, at noon.

2. The whole soil or plot of *Southernhay*, is the Lords of the fair during that time, and unto 12 o'clock after the end thereof.

3. The Lords may set and demise the said soil one day before the eve of the said fair.

4. That the Lords have the whole profit of the said fair.

5. Also that they shall there have the cognizance of Pleas, and a court of Piepoudre, § as an incident to all fairs.

6. Also,

ing country to come with their wares; and the ready sale they met with, induced more considerable dealers and merchants to resort to them with their merchandizes. This resort being held on a *Feria*, or holiday, obtained the name of *Feria*, or Fair. The same among the *Saxons*, the *French*, the *Germans*, and the *Britons*, *Fager*, *Foix*, *Feyer*, and *Faire*, the word being derived from the same source in all these nations, the Latin being at this period the only ecclesiastical language in *West Europe*. Fairs are now, (owing to several causes) much on the decline, and some discontinued, particularly in this City, *Magdalen*, and *St. Thomas's* Fairs. The only ones now here held, are on *Ash-wednesday*, *Whit-monday*, *Lammas*, and *St. Nicholas's* days.

§ A Piepoudre court is to judge matters in a summary way, even while the dust remains on the feet.



**CHAP. II.** 6. Also, they have power to punish all offenders within the said fair.

7. Also, they are to have an house, or *Tollbooth* there, and a pair of stocks.

8. No man is to sell any *wares*, within the said city, or suburbs during the said fair, on pain of forfeiting thereof to the Lords, and they may be seized on, if they lie within the reach of a man's arm.

9. The Stewards of the said fair, are to examine all weights and measures, and finding them defective, to reform the same according to law. \*

A. D.  
1284.

House of  
Grey Friars  
without  
Southgate  
founded.

The *Franciscan*, or *Grey Friars*, ever since their first settling in this city, had their house, or residence in South-gate-street, † but finding it too small and inconvenient for their lordly stomachs, as they increased greatly in numbers; and, from begging mendicants had become greatly enriched with lands, by the ill judged charity of pious devotees to a large annual amount; they obtained a grant from the Earl of *Cornwall* of all that large spot of land, situated on the south side of a street then called *Larrokbeareway* (now *Holloway*) and from the *City ditch* to *Larrokbeare* ditch; on which they began to build a sumptuous convent: but the then Bishop, *Peter Quivill*, not willing to encourage a fraternity that greatly encroached on the prerogative of the regular clergy, endeavoured to hinder them from proceeding. They petitioned the King, who granted them a licence to continue their building, and confirmed the said foundation by his charter. Notwithstanding this, the Bishop stoutly continued his opposition until his death, being accidentally choaked while drinking a syrup: and the bigotted hypocrites pretended this was a judgment of the Almighty for his opposing them in their undertaking.

Upon the King's death, they finished their convent, which continued till the general suppression. The said land

\* There is a tradition, that this fair was once kept in *Ere Island*; but there happening a very great flood on the fair day, which did much damage, the fair, on that account was removed to *Crolditch*, and that therefore the barons of *Oakhampton*, as Lords of the manor of *Ere Island*, had the moiety of the profits of the said fair; but little confidence can be put in this tradition, as, according to *Doomsday-book*, which was compiled in the year 1086, it is expressly called *Crolditch* fair: and this is almost as soon as any barons of *Oakhampton* were created.

*Cleveland.*

† Tradition informs us their first residence in *Exeter* was where the *Black Lions Inn* is now situated; and it seems very probable, as it has the appearance of a very ancient building, and of a monastical foundation.

land (being a separate manor) is still called *Friars-hays*; and is at this time the property of *Capt. Richard Graves*, who married the daughter of *Sir John Colleton*, Bart. the late proprietor.

CHAP. II.

A. D.  
1285.

The Mayor and Bailiffs were this year (as we find on the Records) chosen upon Thursday in Passion week.

The first records of this city now remaining in the Council chamber begin this year.

*Isabella*, Countess of *Devon*, endeavouring to encroach on the liberties and privileges of the citizens, they referred their cause to the King, and pleaded that their city was an ancient demesne, and they held it, in fee farm of the crown, paying 29*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* per annum; and to support the same they referred to *King Henry 3d's* charter, granted to his brother, *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*, the King's uncle; and by which they further challenged return of writs, a gallows, pillory, tumbrell, &c. and a fair of 4 days, beginning 31st July, at 12 at noon: besides 3 markets weekly, on *Monday*, *Wednesday*, and *Friday*; and they certified they had enjoyed these liberties before, and since the conquest: in consequence of this reference, the King confirmed these privileges to them by his royal sign manual.

Citizens  
complain to  
the King.Ancient  
market  
days.Liberties  
confirmed.

*Walter Lechlade*, the first precentor, was this year murdered as he came from morning prayers (which was usually in those days at 2 o'clock) and this struck the clergy with such terror, that they petitioned the King, who, with his Queen, came to *Exeter*; and after a strict investigation of the said murder, *Alphred Dupont*, who had been eight times Mayor, together with the Porter of the *Southgate* was arraigned, found guilty, and executed: it being proved that the *Southgate* was that night left open, by which means the murderer escaped, and was never after heard of. It does not appear from any accounts handed down to us, that the Mayor and Porter were any ways privy to, or concerned in this murder; but only that through their misconduct in leaving the gate open, the murderer's escape was facilitated. The King, Queen, and their suite kept their Christmas here; and during their residence, they lodged in the house of the *Blackfriars* (lately *Bedford-house*) where they continued till the beginning of the next year; when, at the King's instigation, a composition and agreement was made between the Mayor and commonalty, on the one part; and the Bishop, Dean and Chapter, on the other part: in which, the said Mayor and citizens, for the better security of the resident clergy, gave them (by a deed) liberty to encompass the whole close and cemetery of *St. Peter*, with a high wall; and

The late  
Mayor, and  
the Porter  
of the  
*Southgate*,  
hanged.St. Peter's  
close en-  
closed with  
walls and  
gates.

CHAP. II. and to erect the following gates: viz. St. Michael's, \*  
 St. Martin's, Berkley, † Palace, Deaa's, ‡ St. George's, ‡  
 A. D. and St. Petroch's: § but the Mayor and citizens reserved  
 1286. to themselves their full judicial power and privileges  
 which they had been possessed of before this agreement.

This deed  
 may be seen  
 at large in  
 Isaac.

The deed is dated the 25th of March 1286, and is witnessed  
 by the Lord *Hugh de Courtenay*, the Lord, *Oliver de Dinkham*,  
*Hugh Peverell de Sampford*, *Richard de Poltimore*, *Henry de*  
*Raleigh*, *Henry de Parle Bean*, Sheriff of Devon, and *Thomas*  
*de Pinn*, Knights. ‡

Part of Exe-  
 bridge  
 washed a-  
 way.

This year, the summer proved very wet; which caused  
 great inundations; a considerable part of *Exe-bridge* was  
 carried away by the high waters; but was again repaired at  
 the sole charge of the citizens.

Wales  
 united to  
 England.

King *Edward* having totally reduced the *Welch*, and by  
 the death of their last prince, *Leoline* (who was killed in bat-  
 tle) subjected them to his government, sent for his Queen,  
 then big with her first child, to *Carnarvon* castle, which he  
 had lately built; and she was there delivered of a prince  
 (afterwards the unfortunate *King Edward 2d*,) whom the  
*Welch*, soon after acknowledged as their prince; and ever  
 since that period, they have remained dependent on the  
 English nation: the eldest sons of our Monarchs always be-  
 ing created, soon after their births, Princes of *Wales*, though  
 born Dukes of *Cornwall*.

1209.

Countess  
*Weare*  
 made.

*Isabella de Portibus* Countess of *Devon*, bearing ill will  
 towards the citizens of *Exeter*, endeavoured by all means in  
 her power to distress them: accordingly, to injure their  
 commerce and fishery, she made a dam, or *Weare*, across  
 the river *Exe*; at a place still called Countess *Weare*, which  
 hindered the ships and boats from coming up to the Quay,  
 as they had hitherto done. The citizens therefore laid their  
 complaint before the King, who sent down *Sir Malcolm*  
*Harleigh*, his general escheator on the south of *Trent*, to make  
 enquiry concerning the said encroachments: this was held  
 accordingly at the Castle; when the jurors, who consisted  
 of the principal landholders of the hundred of *Wonford*, re-  
 turned a verdict in favor of the citizens, as follows, "that  
 "the said *Isabella*, Countess of *Devon* having erected a certain  
 "*Weare* across the river *Exe*, (which river is, and ought to  
 be

Citizens  
 complain to  
 the King.

Verdict  
 given in  
 their favor.

\* Now Broadgate. † St. Catherine's. ‡ Beargate. ‡ Little-  
 stile. § now shut up: the passage is partly remaining, by the side of  
 the Globe Tavern, a house being built where it entered into South-  
 gate-street, and which is now inhabited by Mrs. Perkins, a Broker.

‡ Before this time, the church-yard of St. Peter, was open to the  
 High-street, with only a low wall, like those surrounding country  
 church-yards: nor were any buildings erected on that side the street.

“be, the property of the King in right of the city of *Exeter*, from *Checkstone* to the bridge of the said city, called *Ere-bridge* / to the great annoyance of the citizens thereof, and the neighbouring inhabitants of the county of *Devon*, they are thereby greatly injured in their trades and fisheries.”

Another inquisition was likewise held before the said *Sir Malcolm Harleigh*, who, for that purpose, kept his court at the Dean's house within the close, when the citizens proved upon their oaths, that the said city appertains to the crown, both before and ever since the conquest, that the same is immediately held of the King, and that King *Henry 3d* father of the present King, did give this city to his brother, the Earl of *Cornwall*, and his heirs; and that the citizens do hold the same in fee farm rent of the said Earl, as before, they held it of the King, paying to him yearly 35*l.* 10*s.* and likewise that the water and river *Ere*, for ever of old time did appertain unto the said city, from the bridge thereof unto the port of *Exmouth*; and that the fishing in the said river is, and ought to be free and common to all men who choose to fish therein: yet nevertheless, *Isabella*, Countess of *Devon*, about six years last past, made and raised a *Weare* across the said river, which is of such height, that the fishing for, and taking of Salmon and other fish is destroyed above the said *Weare*, to the great damage of the citizens, and inhabitants of the county of *Devon*: likewise, that boats and vessels were used to pass up and down the river, even up to the bridge of the said city, loaden with wines and other merchandizes to the great benefit of both the city and country around; but that since the erection of the said *Weare*, the navigation of the river is totally destroyed, to the great damage of the inhabitants: and further they say, that all lands and tenements within the said city, may be devised, and given by a last will and testament, as well as any other goods and chattels whatsoever, even in like manner as is used and accustomed in the city of *London*.

Upon the return of these writs to the King at *Westminster*, his Majesty fully confirmed them, and sent down his royal mandate for their immediate execution, that all the nuisances complained of, should be removed, and the citizens reinstated in all their former rights and privileges.

Notwithstanding this interference of the King, his orders were but partially obeyed; the *Weare*, instead of being entirely destroyed, was only cut through the middle, while the abutments at each end were suffered to remain; which kept back a great part of the flowing tide, and lessened the channel, by which means, the sands and filth accumulated

Writs confirmed by the King.

Haven almost ruined.

G

in

**CHAP. II.** in such a manner, that they obstructed the passage, and left room only for small barges to pass up to the city: whereas, before this, ships of a tolerable burden, would go, even to the water port, and there unlade their merchandize.

A. D.  
1292.

*Ongurus de sancto Milone*, a rich citizen of *Exeter* gave to the Dean and Chapter, the whole manor of *Stoke-wood*, which was united to the manor of *Stoke-canon*: this deed was witnessed by *William Gatepath*, (the Mayor this year,) *Richard de Poltimore*, *Herbert de Pine*, and *William le Speke*, Knights.

Priory of  
Cowick  
founded.

According to *Sir William Dugdale*, about this time, *Hugh Lord Courtenay*, Baron of *Oakhampton*, founded the priory of *Cowick*, near this city, as a cell to the Abbey of *Tavistock*: but *Mr. Tanner* in his *Notitia* says (with more reason) it was built by one of the family of *de Brionis*, and given as a cell to the abbey of *Beck* in *Normandy*; and that this *Lord Courtenay* only made it denizen. That it belonged to the abbey of *Tavistock* is plain, and the Church of *Oakhampton* was appropriated to it; as also the churches of *Kenn*, *Halstow*. and *Sticklepath*, with the manor of *Christow*.

This *Hugh*, Lord *Courtenay* died on the 28th February 1292, and was buried in the church of this Priory; as was also his Lady, who died October 1st 1323.

1293.

*Hugh*, Lord *Courtenay* was created Earl of *Devon*, being the first of that family who enjoyed this title.

1295.

Bakers,  
Brewers  
and Millers  
to be corporally  
punished.

The King sent his orders to the magistrates of the principal cities and boroughs in the kingdom, to punish corporally all bakers, brewers, and millers convicted of bad practices, and all that were found to go armed in the night, and disturb the peace; also, to oblige millers to return the flour by weight, according to the weight of the grain sent to be ground.

1297.

Dispute  
settled with  
the Chapter  
concerning  
a passage to  
the City  
walls.

The King made a tour through the county of *Devon*; and visited this city, where he staid several days, lodging at the house of the Black friars; and took this opportunity of settling a long disputed claim, between the Citizens, and the Dean and Chapter, concerning the right of a free passage through a lane that led to the city walls, betwixt *St. Catherine's* Nunnery, and the black friars (now *Egypt* lane) which the Clergy endeavoured to stop up; but it was adjudged in favor of the citizens to have a free passage to the walls, which by their charter they were bound to repair, and defend.

1299.

Issued.

It was found by verdict, that as the lands, within this city, of a Freeman descend to any person, so, by the custom, the freedom of the city descendeth therewith.

The Mayor and Citizens were appointed sole guardians of the Port of *Exeter*; to assist the King in his naval wars; with a power to search for, and seize on all gold and silver, intended to be sent out of the kingdom.

This

This year, the Mayor was chosen by the voices of 24 free-  
men citizens upon their oaths.

A great dispute arose between the Dean and Chapter, and the Prior and Friar preachers (commonly called the Black friars) concerning the funeral of *Sir Henry Rawleigh*, Knight, whose corpse, the Dean &c. insisted on being presented at the cathedral, prior to its interment in the said Friars church; which they refused to do: the Dean &c. therefore caused it by force to be brought there and presented; after which, they sent it back to the Friars' convent, when they refused to receive it, and made fast their gate; by which means the corpse of the poor knight remained so long unburied, that it stank, and became such a nuisance, that they were obliged to bury it in the Cathedral. This affair occasioned a law suit between the parties: but on enquiry, the Friars were obliged to submit, and consent that no person (who died within the city and suburbs) should be interred within their church and cemetery, without being first presented at *St. Peter's* church.

The tenants of the Lord of *Kenton* and *Wyke*, *Earl Marshal of England*, refusing to pay murage (the town duties for repairing the walls of the city) for the wares and merchandizes which they brought here to sell, a law suit commenced, which was, at length, decided in favor of the citizens.

An ordinance was this year made, that no person should buy any wares, merchandize, or victuals bringing into this city to be sold, until the said goods be brought and lodged in the market, on pain of forfeiting the goods; which law was confirmed by act of parliament in the 5th year of King Edward VI.

In this King's reign, a native of this city, called, from the place of his birth, *Walter of Excester*, was much esteemed for his learning, especially in the greek and latin languages. He wrote at the request of one *Baldwin* (a citizen hereof) the history of *Guy*, Earl of *Warwick*. He was invited by the King, to accept of some ecclesiastical preferment, which he modestly refused; choosing a solitary life; and accordingly retired to a small hermitage in *Cornwall*, called the cell of *St. Caroke*, where he spent the remainder of his days in great piety and devotion; and was buried in his cell, where, according to the wonder working enthusiasts of those gloomy times, the sick were cured, and miracles wrought at his tomb.

King *Edward* died on the 7th July this year; and was succeeded by his son, *Edward of Caernarvon*: so called from the place of his birth.

§ 2

MAYORS

CHAP. II.

A. D.  
1301.

Great dispute concerning a stinking corpse.

1302.

1304.

Provisions are to be sold in the market place, on pain of forfeiture.

Walter of Excester, a learned Man.

1306.

CHAP. II. **MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of EDWARD I.**

1273.	Richard Newton.	1286,
<i>Richard Geythen.</i>	Thomas Gatepath.	<i>David Taylor.</i>
Robert Newton,	John Rook.	Stephen Langdon.
Walter Alport.	1280.	Henry Goldercott.
Thomas Farthing.	<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	Peter Green.
Michael Thorn.	Richard Allen,	Roger Russell.
1274.	John Zouch,	1287.
<i>Martin Dirling.</i>	John Rook.	<i>John Zouch.</i>
John Okeston	Alex. Troycott,	Richard Allen.
Richard Tantifer.	1281.	Richard Montin.
Richard Allen.	<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	William Kerswell,
Nicholas Atlane.	Richard Allen.	John Wells.
1275.	John Zouch.	1288.
<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	John Rook.	<i>John Zouch.</i>
Richard Tantifer.	Alex. Troycott.	Walter Langdon.
Richard Allen.	1282.	William Buffett.
Richard Newton.	<i>Martin Dirling.</i>	William Gatepath.
Thomas Gatepath.	Nicholas Gervis.	Jordan Atlane.
1276.	Roger Fitzhenry.	1289.
<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	Nicholas Atlane.	<i>Richard Allyn,</i>
John Fenniton.	Richard Tantifer.	John Rook.
Richard Allen,	1283.	Richard Montin.
Richard Newton.	<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	Walter Langdon.
Thomas Gatepath.	David Taylor.	Robert Wyton.
1277.	Nicholas Atlane.	1290.
<i>John Fenniton.</i>	Richard Gatepath.	<i>John Zouch.</i>
Richard Allen.	Hugh Falcon.	Henry Goldercott.
Henry Falcon.	1284.	John Webb.
John Rook.	<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	William Gatepath.
John Zouch.	David Taylor.	Richard Montin.
1278.	Henry Ashe.	1291.
<i>Alphred Duport.</i>	Stephen London.	<i>John Zouch.</i>
Richard Tantifer.	Nicholas Atlane.	William Gatepath.
Nicholas Atlane.	1285.	John Rook.
Hugh Falcon.	<i>David Taylor.</i>	William Kerswell.
Thomas Gatepath.	Walter Langdon.	William Buffett.
1279.	Stephen London.	1292.
<i>John Fenniton.</i>	Henry Ashe.	<i>William Gatepath.</i>
Richard Allen.	John Horne.	William Kerswell.
		Henry

Henry Golderott.	Rob. Newton.	Walter Duport.
William Wells.	Wm. Kerswell.	Thomas Farthing
Richard Montin.	Henry Trecott.	Michael Champer-
		noun.

1293.

1298.

1303.

<i>Richard Tantifer.</i>	<i>Walter Tantifer.</i>
John Fenniton.	Wm. Buffett.
John Cook.	Wm. Kerswell.
Alex. Coryton.	Roger Wheaton.
Robert Newton.	Nicholas Paige.

1294.

1299.

*Roger Wheaton.*  
 Walter Langdon.  
 Wm. Kerswell.  
 Wm. Buffett.  
 Henry Trecott.

1304.

<i>John Zouch.</i>	<i>John Horn.</i>
Walter Langdon.	Nicholas Paige.
John Rook.	Roger Beynim.
Wm. Buffett.	Robert Newton.
John Horn.	Stephen Bennam.

1295.

1300.

*Roger Wheaton.*  
 Walter Langdon.  
 Wm. Kerswell.  
 Robert Newton.  
 Walter Duport.

1305.

<i>John Zouch.</i>	<i>Wm. Gatepath.</i>
Walter Langdon.	John Paige.
Wm. Kerswell.	Jordan Atlane.
Wm. Buffett.	Robert Newton.
Roger Wheaton.	John Perour.

1296.

1301.

*Roger Beynim.*  
 Walter Langdon.  
 Robert Ashberton  
 Wm. Kerswell,  
 Henry Trecott.

1306.

<i>Walter Tantifer.</i>	<i>Wm. Tantifer.</i>
Walter Langdon.	Stephen Langdon.
Wm. Kerswell.	Wm. Kerswell.
Robert Newton.	John Gervis.
Roger Wheaton.	Roger Beynim.

1297.

1302.

*Roger Beynim.*  
 Walter Langdon.  
 Robert Newton.  
 Wm. Kerswell.  
 Henry Trecott.

<i>Walter Tantifer.</i>	<i>Roger Beynim.</i>
Walter Langdon.	Roger Newton.

*Edward*, on taking possession of the throne, evinced his incapacity for governing a nation so turbulent as the *English* then were. In opposition to his father's dying commands, he recalled his favorite *Pierce Gaveston*; and placed the whole government in his hands. This *Gaveston* had been banished by the late King for debauching the morals of the young prince; and his recall gave great offence to the *English* nobility, who could not patiently see a foreigner possess the ear of their Monarch, and govern at his will: they remonstrated against it, but in vain: at length, they had recourse to their arms,

A. D.  
 1306.

Edward 2.



**CHAP. II.** arms, which obliged the King to rebanish *Geoston*; when the nobility taking advantage of the King's weakness, acted in the most arbitrary manner, in their respective districts: opposing the King's officers, and openly defying the laws.

An unhappy dispute arose at this time, between *Hugh Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, and the Mayor and Citizens of *Exeter*, which, from a trifling beginning, ended in the ruin of the little navigation of the river *Exe*, which had been left them.

Dispute between the Earl of Devon, and citizens, about a pot of fish; and its consequences.

The occasion of this dispute, was briefly this: On a fast day, the Earl sent his servant to *Exeter* market to buy fish: the Bishop's servant came also on the like errand; but there happened to be but three pots of fish in the market at that time. The Earl's servant insisted on having the whole, which was opposed by the servant of the Bishop: on this, a great contention arose between them, and some of the citizens joining the contending parties, a great riot ensued. To quell this, the Mayor (*Roger Beynim*) was sent for; and he very prudently, as well as justly, ordered that one pot of the fish should be delivered to the Earl's servant, another to the Bishop's, and the other to be reserved for the use of the citizens. The Earl being acquainted with this decision of the Mayor, and thinking himself aggrieved in not having the whole, came to his house in the city; where he sent for the Mayor to attend him immediately. The Mayor well knowing the Earl's pride and cholerick disposition, assembled the citizens at the *Guildhall*, and informed them of the Earl's displeasure, the cause thereof, and the personal danger he was in; desiring them to accompany him to the Earl's house, and protect him, if required. To this they readily agreed, and proceeded there accordingly. The Mayor being introduced into the Earl's room, the door was closed upon him: the Earl began to storm, and used threatening language; The Mayor endeavoured to pacify him, but finding it in vain, took off his *Tabard*, § or upper garment (which was the Earl's livery) and gave it to him; on which the Earl grew more passionate, and high words ensuing, the citizens who attended

§ In the feudal times, it was customary for persons who held lands of the great Barons, to hold them by a tenure which was to accompany them in their military excursions, and to attend his summons whenever called upon, (this was termed, doing suit and service;) and at times of such attendance, they wore over their vest, a *Tabard*, or short coat without sleeves (similar to the heralds' coats at present,) on which was painted or embroidered the arms, crests, and mottos of the Lords from whom they held their lands: such was the case at this time. The Mayor, though a gentleman and of great opulence, held lands of the Earl by this tenure; and accordingly attended him in his livery, as by custom.

attended at the door, doubting of their Mayor's safety, demanded him; which being denied, after several requests, they attempted to force an entrance, in order to rescue him from the Earl's violence: The Earl seeing this, and doubting of the consequences that might ensue to himself, released the Mayor, and desired him to pacify the people. The citizens departed quietly to their houses; but notwithstanding this seeming calmness of the Earl, he ever after bore a great hatred to the citizens; and endeavoured to the full extent of his power, to encroach on their liberties: the Mayor and Common council, from this circumstance, passed a bye law, that no franchised man of this city, should wear any non-freeman's livery, cognizance or badge, without the Mayor's licence; and it is inserted in the freeman's oath to this day.

No Freeman is to wear a foreigner's livery, &c.

The Earl now began to shew his antipathy and hatred towards the citizens: he caused the channel which had been opened for the passage of ships and boats, to be again filled up; and this was done at a great expence, by cutting down a great number of trees, which, being chained together, were laid in the channel, with great quantities of stones and gravel: these, in time, so united together, as to make the removal impracticable. He also caused two more weares to be made; one of which, opposite *St. James's Priory*, is still known by the name of *James's weare*: the other, at a place called *Lampreyford* (near where *Trew's weare* now is;) and by these means the haven was entirely destroyed. Adding to his revenge, he also erected a Quay and a Crane at his manor of *Topsam*, hoping thereby to remove the whole commerce of the citizens, and to benefit himself and tenants. Nor did he stop here: for he not only thus injured the citizens, but arbitrarily seized on their goods, and imprisoned their persons.

A. D.  
1311.

The haven entirely destroyed.

*St. James's* and another weare erected.

*Topsam* quay made.

The citizens complained to the King, who ordered an enquiry to be made; and consequently, several writs were issued for that purpose, which were all returned in favor of the citizens; but so great was the Earl's power at this time, and the weakness and imbecility of the King's government such, that they could not obtain any redress, the Earl opposing by force the King's officers who were sent down to remove the nuisances complained of; and soon after, the unhappy differences arising between the King and the Barons, prevented the citizens from receiving any relief whatever.

Citizens complain to the King, but do not obtain any redress.

In the year 1312, the King by his Writs, appointed the Mayor and Bailiffs of this city, to be justices of the peace, within the same; which greatly lessened the Earl's power, and increased the liberties of the citizens; for, before this time, Justices.

1312.

Mayor and Bailiffs appointed Justices.

**CHAP. II.** time, the whole power of judging in controversial matters concerning the King's peace was in the Earls of *Devon*, and their delegated Justices.

**A. D.**  
1313.

**Isaac.**

What persons may claim a right to the freedom.

By the court rolls of this year, the ancient custom, and fees of admission to the privileges of the freedom of this city, appear to be as follow,

1. The Mayor, by his own free gift may admit any one person to the freedom.

2. The court of Common council may admit any other person to the said privileges.

3. The heir of any freeman may, by his patrimony claim his freedom, whether the inheritance descend from his grandfather, father, uncle, brother, or any other person, being a freeman thereof by, and under, whom he derives any estate or inheritance.

4. All such as have faithfully served an apprenticeship of seven years, under a freeman hereof, shall upon the testimony of the said master, that he hath truly served out his said time, be admitted to the freedom, on paying the usual fees of the court, viz.

	s.	d.
To the Mayor .....	1	8
Recorder .....	1	8
Town Clerk .....	0	8
Chamberlain .....	0	8
The four Bailiffs at 8d. each .....	2	8
Sword Bearer .....	0	4
The four Sergeants at 4d. each .....	1	4
To the poor of Magdalen Hospital	0	1
For inrolling the indenture .....	1	0
	10	1

Fees to be paid.

5. And lastly, all other persons may be admitted to the freedom, by way of redemption, and paying such reasonable fines, as the Mayor and common council may set on them. \*

1316.  
The Earl still continues to vex the citizens. They again complain to the King.

The Earl still continued his encroachments on the liberties of the citizens: and they again prayed the King to interfere in their behalf. The King sent down his writ to the Sheriff of *Devon*, dated 20th March, 1316: this, the Sheriff executed; and a verdict was found in favor of the complainants: yet such

\* This list of fees (copied from Mr. Isaac) must certainly be erroneous in point of time; especially as to the Recorder, Chamberlain and Sword-bearer; the first Recorder not being appointed until 28 Edward 3: the first Sword-bearer 13 of Henry 7, 1497; and there was no Chamberlain till the 2 of Mary, 1554.

such was the Earl's power, that he prevented the writ from being returned. The King sent down a second writ, dated 12th June following, with strict orders to execute the same, and make a return immediately: this was accordingly done, and a decision was again given in favor of the citizens: but so weak was the King's government at this time, and the Earl having joined the Barons in arms, the complainants could meet with no redress; and were overawed in such a manner, that they were forced to relinquish their claims, and be tame spectators of the loss of their most valuable privileges.

CHAP. II.

Verdict again in their favor but no redress obtained.

This year, (1316) the kingdom was visited by two dreadful scourges of the Almighty, famine and pestilence. It began in London, where the people complained that it was occasioned by great quantities of wheat being malted; whereupon an act was passed, that no wheat should be made into malt; and, for regulating the price of strong drink. Notwithstanding this act, wheat continued to advance, even to 4*l*. the quarter; this brought on such a famine throughout the whole kingdom, that parents were accused of eating their own children; and malefactors eat one another in prison. This was followed by so great a mortality among the common people, that those alive were scarce sufficient to bury the dead. This severe scarcity being attributed to an order made by the King, for regulating and settling certain prices on provisions, which prevented the country people from supplying the markets, the said order was accordingly revoked.

Dreadful famine, and pestilence.

The Bakers of this city taking advantage of the necessities of the people, by making their bread of an inferior quality, and smaller than the assize fixed by the Mayor, were fined, and committed to prison till the said fines were paid: seventeen of these Bakers, who dwelt within the Bishop's liberty, claimed an exemption from the Mayor's jurisdiction, but they were forced to submit with the rest, and paid their fines accordingly.

A. D. 1317.

Bakers punished for adulterating bread, &c.

1318.

The Scots having invaded *England*, the King sent orders to such cities and towns as were held by tenure, to assist him in repelling the enemy: the *City of Exeter* therefore sent 30 soldiers well armed and equipped, to join his forces, then assembling at *York*; and they were paid and maintained by the citizens, during the whole campaign. †

The King demands assistance from the citizens.

30 soldiers sent and

An maintained.

H

† From the proportion of Soldiers sent by *Exeter* on this expedition, it appears that it was considered as one of the first rate cities: *London*, the Capital, being rated only at 200 men; and the city of *Canterbury*, (together with the Clergy) at 40.

CHAP. II. An impostor now appeared, who gave some trouble to the citizens; one *John Poudras*, or *Powderham*, a Tanner's son, of this city. He pretended to be the lawful son of King Edward the 1st; and that he was stolen from his cradle by his nurse, and the present King put in his place. Notwithstanding the improbability of this story, many idle people believed it, and resorted to him: but he being apprehended, confessed the imposture, and was executed for the same. †

A. D. 1321. The King demands a subsidy, & it is granted. The King, being in great want of money, demanded a subsidy of the city of *Exeter*; which the citizens cheerfully granted to the amount of every sixth penny of all their goods and chattels.

1322. Two writs of *Nisi prius* were this year tried at the castle of *Exeter*; before *John Stoner*, and *Richard Stapledon*, Knights, the King's Justices of Assize, for this western circuit. In one of them, *Hugh Courtenay* Earl of *Deven*, was plaintiff, and the Mayor and commons of the city, defendants: this was concerning the manor of *Ese Island*, and the suburbs without the Westgate, which the Earl claimed to be his ancient demesne, as part of his Barony of *Oakhamp-ton*; and as such, exempted from the jurisdiction of the said Mayor. The other writ was between the said *Hugh Courtenay*, and the Prior of *St. Nicholas*, plaintiffs, and the Mayor and commonalty, defendants, touching the customs, liberties and privileges of *Lammas fair*: in both of which trials, verdict was given for the citizens. §

1327. Unhappy differences had long existed between the King and his Queen *Isabella*, occasioned by his predilection for his favourites, the two *Spencers*, who had engrossed the whole power of government to themselves and their dependants. Their insolence, the Queen could no longer bear: She fled privately to *France*, with the Prince her son; and soon after returned with a considerable force, and was joined by most of the principal barons. The King finding himself abandoned by

† Mr. *Isaac* very gravely tells us that *Poudras* was enticed to this crime by a familiar spirit, which he kept by him in the shape of a cat; but this spirit failing him, he was at the gallows executed for the same: (surely they ought to have hanged the cat with him,) a wonderful story for such a wonderful age!

§ If verdicts were given in these causes in favor of the citizens, the contended property must have been detained from them by force (an injury very prevalent in the feudal ages;) for we find by history, that the manor of *Ese Island* continued in the *Courtenay* family until the 17 of Henry 8: when it was forfeited by the attainder of *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*. One moiety of *Lammas fair* remained in the possession of that family until the same period: the other moiety continued in the possession of the Prior, until the dissolution.

by his subjects, endeavoured to escape to *Ireland*, and left **CHAP. II.**  
*Walter Stapledon*, Bishop of *Exeter*, Custos of *London*: but  
 the *Londoners* taking arms in favor of the Queen, seized on  
 the Bishop, and barbarously murdered him by cutting off  
 his head; after which they buried his body in a sand hill in  
 the river *Thames*. The King in his flight being intercepted  
 and taken prisoner; was forced to relinquish the throne  
 in favor of his son: and a short time after, through  
 the intrigues of the Queen's paramour (*Mortimer*, Earl of  
*March*) he was most inhumanly murdered, in a very cruel  
 manner: a red hot iron being thrust up his fundament,  
 through a pipe of horn, that no marks or scars might be dis-  
 cerned; and thus, in the most excruciating torments, the  
 unhappy King expired in October, 1327.

### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of EDWARD II.

1307.	Wm. Duport.	Ralph Dyer.
<i>Wm. Gatepath.</i>	John Perour.	Matt. Capper.
Jordan Athane.	Adam Dyer.	1316.
Jordan Perour.	Thos. Farthing.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>
Thos. Farthing.	1312.	Nich. Turand.
Mich. Turand.	<i>Wm. Gatepath.</i>	John Tredeyners.
1308.	Philip Lovecock.	John Buffett.
<i>Roger Beynim.</i>	Wm. Kerswell.	John Davy.
Mich. Turand.	Wm. Farthing.	1317.
Walter Duport.	John Smalcomb.	<i>Roger Beynim.</i>
Robt. Newton.	1313.	Wm. Kerswell.
Thos. Farthing.	<i>Roger Beynim.</i>	Thos. Farthing.
1309.	Thos. Farthing.	Mich. Lekenn.
<i>Roger Beynim.</i>	Philip Lovecock.	Martin Capper.
Thos. Farthing.	Wm. Kerswell.	1318.
Walter Duport.	John Perour.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>
Wm. Newton.	1314,	Martin Lekenn.
Wm. Kerswell.	<i>Roger Beynim.</i>	John Tredeyners.
1310.	Rich. Soller.	Thos. Spycer.
<i>Walter Tantifer.</i>	Mich. Skinner.	Robert Woan.
Walter Langdon.	Rich. Lekenn.	1319.
Peter Zouch.	John Davy.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>
Peter Lovecock.	1315.	Martin Lekenn.
Walter Lekenn.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>	Thos. Furbor.
1311.	Thomas Farthing.	Walter Suegothull.
<i>Walter Langdon.</i>	Rich. Soller.	Thos. Farthing.
	H 2	1320.

CHAP. II.

	1320.	Rich. Sotter.	Thomas Taylor.
	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>	Wm. Sweinthill.	John Erchdeacon,
	Mart. Lekenn.	Wm. Brewer.	1325.
	Thos. Furbor.	Thos. Furbor.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>
	Walter Suegothull.	1323.	Nicholas Wallys
	Thos. Farthing.	<i>Robert Wotton,</i>	Rich. Soller.
	1321.	John Lekenn.	Martin Lekenn,
	<i>Wm. Wotton.</i>	Walter Hughton.	Thomas Oxtou.
	John Perour.	John Davy.	1326.
	John Taylor.	Roger Taylor.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>
	Thomas Spycer.	1324.	John Birch.
	John Davy.	<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>	Thos. Furbor.
	1322.	Martin Lekenn.	Martin Lekenn.
	<i>Robert Wotton.</i>	Henry Lovecock.	Thomas Spycer.

Edward 3d. *Edward* was only 14 years of age when he ascended the throne; and was entirely governed by his mother, and her favorite *Mortimer*; yet, even at this early age he shewed proofs of great magnanimity, which was the glory of his reign. He endeavoured to suppress the different factions which had so long divided the kingdom; and happily succeeded: in order to lessen the power of the barons, he increased the privileges of the cities and borough towns; and in the year 1329 he granted a new charter to the citizens of *Exeter*, by which he gave them cognizance of pleas, that no freeman should implead any other freeman, out of the liberties and courts thereof, on pain of disfranchisement: he also extended their privileges and jurisdiction, by which grants, the power of the Earls of *Devon* over the citizens, was greatly diminished.

A new charter granted. No freeman to implead another freeman out of the city.

1330. The Guildhall rebuilt, and the Porter of Westgate removed.

The Guildhall being ruinous, was rebuilt. The porter of the Westgate was punished, and removed from his office; he having left the said gate open, during the night, without the Mayor's licence.

1334. *Martin Lekenn* died in his mayoralty; and *Thomas Lichfield* was elected to supply his place, for the remainder of the year. This year, the King created his eldest son, *Edward*, Duke of *Cornwall*; and sent his orders to the Mayor of this city, for the proclaiming thereof, (these orders were directed to the Mayor of his honorable city of *Exeter*.) He also ordered that this city should remain a parcel of the said Dutchy, as heretofore it was of the Earldom; and fixed the fee-farm rent at 20*l.* per annum.

1336. Prince of Wales made Duke of Cornwall.

1344. The King being abroad, in *France*, some evil minded person,

son, in order to blacken the character of the citizens, who stood high in their Monarch's favor, falsely informed him that a great riot had been committed by them, and that great tumults still continued among them: upon which he sent a commission of Oyer and terminer dated 20th August 1344, directed to the Mayor and Justices, strictly requiring them to appease the said tumults, and to cause all breakers of the peace of the city to be severely punished.

CHAP. II.

The King  
falsely in-  
formed of a  
riot in Exe-  
ter.

Sends his  
commission  
of enquiry.

Party differences and contentions arose among the citizens, concerning the election of a Mayor, and other officers for the ensuing year, which had nearly occasioned great troubles; but were happily prevented by the interference of some discreet citizens who prevailed on the contending parties to agree to the following regulation: it was therefore ordered by the Mayor and Common council, that for the future, no person should be elected into the office of Mayor, but a wise, sober, grave and honest man; who had served the office of Bailiff one whole year; and that he should be able to expend yearly of his own freehold 5*l.* at the least, and that he be chosen by 24 of the most discreet citizens selected for that purpose, who, upon their several, and respective oaths, shall determine the election.

A. D.  
1347.

Great con-  
test about  
the election  
of a Mayor,  
&c.

*Nicholas Halberton* died in his mayoralty; and *Robert Noble* was chosen for the remainder of the year.

1348.

In *Easter term*, this year, a long pending suit of law was determined in the court of King's bench, *Westminster*; in which a verdict was found, that the *Quay*, *Passage*, and *Lastage*, at *Prattished* near *Exmouth*, and all the profits arising from thence, were, and are a parcel of the *feefarm* of this city, as part of the manor of *Lydford*, a member of the *Dutchy of Cornwall*, holden by the said citizens, at the yearly rent of 20*l.*

Quay, &c.  
at Exmouth  
belong to  
the citizens  
of Exeter.

The pasture of *Croll ditch*, or *Southernhay* was first set at an annual rent of 5 shillings.

1353.

A dreadful pestilence, at first brought from *Asia*, spread over all the southern parts of *Europe*, and at length reached *England*, where it made most dreadful ravages: in the year 1348, there died in *London*, from the 1st January, to the 1st July following, 57,374 persons; and reaching this city, it nearly depopulated it, insomuch, that the cemeteries could not contain the dead bodies, and therefore they were greatly enlarged: this dreadful calamity continued until the year 1357, when it happily ceased.

A dreadful  
pestilence.

Exeter  
nearly de-  
populated  
by it.

A Recorder being thought necessary to assist the Mayor, in his judicial office, *John Weekes Esq.* was the first appointed.

1354.

Recorder  
first ap-  
pointed.



## CHAP. II.

Low price  
of provi-  
sions.

A. D.  
1357.

Exeter as-  
sists the  
King with  
3 ships, 60  
mariners, &  
90 archers  
in each.

Battle of  
Poitiers.

The Black  
Prince, with  
the French  
King, &c.  
his prisoners  
come to  
Exeter.

1362.

Bakers re-  
fuse to bake,  
are fined.

1367.

ed, with a salary of 3*l.* per annum: this officer was after-  
wards chosen yearly, like the Mayor and other officers.

The great mortality abovementioned had so lessened the  
consumption of provisions, that the prices were reduced to  
the following low rates: a fine Ox was sold at 4*s.* the best  
Cow at 1*s.* and the best Hog at 5*d.*

King *Edward's* successful war against the *French*, in  
which he took the important town of *Calais*, and gained the  
memorable victory of *Cressy*, so exasperated them that they  
fitted out a powerful fleet, with which they insulted the *Eng-  
lish* coast, and burned several small towns in *Sussex*. The  
King (then in *France*) being informed of these depredations,  
sent his orders to the different sea ports of the kingdom to fit  
out such a number of ships as, according to their tenure, they  
were bound to assist him with. Accordingly by his Let-  
ters patent, under his great seal, dated 25th March, 1357, the  
citizens of *Exeter* were required to furnish him with three  
ships immediately; each to be manned with 60 mariners, and  
20 archers; this, the citizens cheerfully complied with; they  
delivered the ships to *Gervais de Aldamy*, Vice Admiral of  
*Devon*, who conducted them to join the *English Fleet*, then ly-  
ing at *Sandwich*, under the command of *John Lord Montgomery*,  
high Admiral of *England*, by whom the *French* fleet were de-  
feated; and the *English* (in retaliation for the injury they had  
received,) plundered and burnt on the coast of *France* near  
100 leagues in extent.

*Edward*, Prince of *Wales*, (surnamed the *Black Prince*)  
having gained the ever memorable victory of *Poitiers*, in  
which 12,000 *English* defeated an army of more than 60,000  
of the choicest troops of the *French*; taking *John*, King of  
*France*, his youngest son, and a great number of noblemen,  
prisoners, on his return, landed at *Plymouth*, and from thence  
coming to this city, was received with the greatest testi-  
monies of joy: the Prince and his royal prisoners were nobly  
entertained at the expence of the Mayor and citizens during  
their continuance; which was three days.

The Bakers of this city, thinking themselves aggrieved be-  
cause they could not make and sell their bread according to  
their own quality and assize, entered into an agreement, not  
to bake any; by which the citizens were for two days to-  
gether destitute of bread: for this offence, the Bakers were  
all indicted, found guilty, and sentenced to be fined each,  
1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

This year a cause was appointed to be tried at the Castle of  
*Exeter*, before *John Mowbray*, and *Edmund Chealy*, his Ma-  
jesty's Justices of Assize, between the Dean and Chapter of  
this

this Cathedral, Plaintiffs; and *John Gyst* (late Mayor,) the **CHAP. II.**  
Commonalty and Bailiffs of this city, Defendants: but the  
Dean and Chapter, doubting the issue of their cause, artful-  
ly endeavoured to hinder the proceedings; and in order there-  
to, exhibited a bill of complaint to the King, informing him  
that the Mayor had, by proclamation, commanded the citi-  
zens to attend him in arms at the next assizes, at the castle;  
whereby the justices might be prevented from proceeding in  
the trial, and by that means, the jury hindered from being  
sworn.

Dean and  
Chapter  
give false  
information  
to the King.

The King, angered at this, sent his commission to *John Mountague*, and four others, to examine into the truth of this information; but before they sat, the said justices, and *Sir Guy de Brion* being returned to court, were examined concerning the said riot, when they testified that the said charge was false and groundless, and that no such riot had happened: upon which the King sent his inhibition to the commissioners, forbidding them to proceed therein. This deed bears date the 12th of February, 1367.

*Edward*, the *Black Prince*, being in a consumptive state, returned from *France*, and landed at *Plymouth*. In his journey to *London*, he came to this city with the *Princess* his wife, and was joyfully received; but being in a very weak condition, he staid several days to recover his strength. During the time of his stay, the Prince and his suite were elegantly entertained at the expence of the Mayor, at whose house he was lodged, till his departure from Exeter.

A. D.  
1371.

Edward the  
black Prince  
again visits  
this city.

*Roger Plenty* dying in his Mayoralty, *Roger Wilsford* was  
elected to serve the remainder of the year. 1373.

The summer of this year being excessively hot, it occasioned a mortality which carried off a great number of the inhabitants of this city. A great mortality.

*Edward the black Prince* died in the flower of his age, deeply regretted by the whole of the English nation; but especially by the inhabitants of this city, to which he had been a constant friend, and great benefactor. He possessed all the social virtues in an eminent degree; he was valiant, brave and affable; generous and liberal; his greatest pleasure was to reward merit, wherever he found it; and he possessed all the qualities that constitute the true hero and friend. 1376.

Edward the  
black Prince  
dies.

*King Edward* died at *Richmond*, in *Surry*, in the 65th year of his age, and 51st of his reign; and was succeeded by his grandson, *Richard*, son of *Edward the black Prince*. 1377.

MAYORS

CHAP. II. *MAYORS* and *BAILIFFS* in the reign of *EDWARD III.*

1327.	Wm. Brewer.	Roger Wythorn.
<i>Richard Soller.</i>	John Lekenn.	1340.
Thomas Gervais.	John Sutton.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>
Wm. Kirton.	1334.	Robert Bridport.
Richard Pleigh.	<i>Martin Lekenn.</i>	Thomas Furbor.
Wm. Austin.	<i>Thomas Litchfield.</i>	Richard Pleigh.
1328.	John Sutton.	Richard Halberton.
<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>	Henry Lovecock.	1341.
Thomas Furbor.	Alex. Wallis.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>
Martin Lekenn.	Robert Turner.	Reynold Wythern.
Henry Haughton.	1335.	Thomas Furbor.
Peter Baynime.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>	Richard Pleigh.
1329.	Thomas Pleigh.	John Sutton.
<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>	Thomas Furbor.	1342.
Thomas Gervais.	Wm. Lydeland.	<i>Robert Furbor.</i>
Henry Lovecock.	Alex. Wallis.	Rob. Bradworthy.
John Lekenn.	1336.	Robert Halberton.
Richard Pleigh.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>	Nich. Goldscott.
1330.	Thomas Furbor.	Walter White.
<i>Martin Lekenn.</i>	John Coles.	1343.
John Trediners.	Wm. Shillingford.	<i>Thomas Furbor.</i>
Henry Haughton.	John Colebrook.	Wm. Hastment.
Henry Gatepath.	1337.	Roger Treseler.
Walter Gervais.	<i>Thomas Gervais.</i>	Richard Pleigh.
1331.	Robert Noble.	Robert Noble.
<i>Philip Lovecock.</i>	Richard Pleigh.	1344.
Henry Haughton.	John Newton.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>
John Lekenn.	John Davy.	John Newton.
Richard Pleigh.	1338.	John Sutton.
Robert Kirton.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>	Richard Pleigh.
1332.	Nich. Goldscott.	Robert Noble.
<i>Martin Lekenn.</i>	Richard Pleigh.	1345.
Thomas Furbor.	Thomas Furbor.	<i>Henry Haughton.</i>
Lawrence Colwell.	John Davy.	Nich. Halberton.
Reynold Noldekin.	1339.	Roger Treseler.
John Sutton.	<i>Thomas Litchfield.</i>	Wm. Hascom.
1333.	Robert Bridport.	John Sutton.
<i>Thomas Gervais.</i>	John Cook.	1346.
Reynold Noldekin.	John Newton.	<i>Thomas Furbor.</i>
		John

John Gist.  
Robert Noble.  
John Fleigh.  
Walter White.

1347.

Henry Haughton;  
Thomas Spicer.  
John Bonleigh.  
John Sutton.  
John Newton.

1348.

Nich. Halberton, Ob.

Robert Noble.  
John White.  
Nich. Goldescot.  
Robert Noble, jun.  
John Byrch.

1349.

Robert Bridport.  
John Spicer.  
Henry Furbor.  
John Ottrey.  
John Sleigh.

1350.

Robert Bridport.  
Robert Brown.  
Thomas Spicer.  
John Gist.  
Richard Oliver.

1351.

Robert Bridport.  
John Swanton.  
Roger Atwill.  
Richard Somaster.  
John Spicer.

1352.

Robert Bridport.  
Richard Oliver.  
Thomas Spicer.  
Robert Brown.  
John Gist.

1353.

John Spicer.  
Roger Atwill.  
Simon Atpitt.  
John Ottrey.  
John Somaster.

1354.

John Spicer.  
John Gist.  
Roger Atwill.  
Henry Furbor.  
Wm. Bennett.

1355.

Robert Bridport.  
John Hull.  
Roger Atwill.  
John Ottrey.  
Robert Brown.

1356.

John Gist.  
Wm. Bennett.  
Wm. Gervais.  
Henry Furbor.  
Adam Brasinter.

1357.

John Spicer.  
Nich. Briddestow.  
John Hull.  
Roger Atwill.  
John Dirkin.

1358.

Robert Noble.  
Robert Brown.  
John Alleigh.  
Wm. Gervais.  
Wm. Stockleigh.

1359.

John Spicer.  
John Dirkin.  
Roger Atwill.  
Richard Oliver.

I

Walter Atwood.

1360.

John Spicer.  
Warren Bailiff.  
Walter Crisp.  
Rich. Goldsmith.  
Robert Brown.

1361.

John Gist.  
William Rokes.  
Roger Atwill.  
Walter Atwood.  
William Stokely.

1362.

John Gist.  
Roger Plenty.  
Nich. Briddestow.  
William Hardy.  
Robert Stoke.

1363.

John Gist.  
Roger Atwill.  
William Gervais.  
William Seamor.  
Walter Atwood.

1364.

John Gist.  
Walter Atwood.  
John Tirling.  
Roger Fitz Hugh.  
Henry Welland.

1365.

Nicholas Taverner.  
Wm. Hardy.  
Robert Wilsford.  
Adam Scutt.  
John Nymett.

1366.

Nich. Briddestow.  
Martin Battishill.  
William Gervais.

Roger

CHAP. II. Roger Atwill. John Nymett. William Gervais.  
 Thomas Wilpy. John Webb. Thomas Webber.  
 1367. 1371. John White.

*Nich. Bridleson.* Roger Plenty. 1375.  
 John Nymett. John Grey. Robert Wilsford.  
 Martin Battishill. Thomas Webb. John Talbott.  
 William Gervais. John Bell. William Gervais.  
 Henry Furbor. John Gommerell. Robert Stoke.  
 1368. 1372. Walter Fowk.

*Warren Bailif.* John Gist. 1376.  
 Robert Wilsford. Walter Atwood. John Grey.  
 Walter Whithorn. Roger Atwill. John Nymett.  
 Walter Atwood. Robert Stoke. Adam Gould.  
 Thomas Webb. Walter Fowk. Walter Whitrow.  
 1369. 1373. Richard Stayce,

*Roger Plenty.* Roger Plenty, Ob. 1377.  
 Raymond Gosse. Robert Wilsford.  
 Adam Scutt. Adam Scutt.  
 Roger Atwood. Richard Bobom. William Gervais.  
 Walter Crisp. Thomas Webber. John Russel.  
 1370. John Russel. Raymond Gosse.

*Martin Battishill.* 1374.  
 Walter Whithorn. Robert Wilsford.  
 John Grey. Adam Gould.

Richard 2d. Richard 2d. was only 11 years of age when he began his  
 A. D. reign; and during his minority, the government was in the  
 1377. hands of his uncles, the Dukes of Lancaster, York and Gloucester; but, when he came of age, and took the power into his own hands, he (by his weak attachments to his favorites, on whom he lavished most of the wealth and power of the kingdom) so exasperated the Barons, that even his uncles could not bear the pride and tyranny of these upstarts: this made his reign a scene of unhappiness; and, at length brought him to a miserable end.

1378. The French and Spaniards, taking advantage of the King's minority, fitted out a large fleet, and ravaged the Southern  
 The French burn Dartmouth, and Plymouth, and attempt Exeter. Exeter made all preparation in their power, to receive them, by arming themselves, repairing their walls, and scouring their ditches; but, Sir Philip Courtenay, and his brother,  
 Are oppos- ed. Sir

*Sir Peter* (son of the Earl of Devon) having collected the inhabitants of Somerset and Devon, the French prudently re-embarked: however, the Knights, assisted by the citizens of Exeter, and the gentlemen of the said counties, fitted out such Ships as they could collect together, and (inconsiderately) attacked the enemies fleet: but, overpowered by numbers, they with most of their gentlemen followers were taken prisoners, and carried into France.

CHAP. II.

Sir Philip Courtenay, &c. taken prisoners.

The plague again visited this city, and carried off a great number of the inhabitants.

A great plague.

This year, an Act of Parliament was passed (chiefly through the interest of the citizens of London,) that no victualler should exercise any judicial office in any City, Town, Borough, or Scepter, in the kingdom, unless in such towns where no other sufficient person should be found qualified for such an office; in which case, every such person was to abstain from the exercise of such trade, during the time of his office, upon pain of forfeiture of all such victuals as he should sell during that time; by this, all Fishmongers, Butchers, and Grocers, were deemed victuallers, and were rendered incapable of serving the office of Mayor, &c.

A. D. 1379.

1380.

No Fishmonger, Butcher, or Grocer to serve the office of Mayor, &c.

During the commotion which broke out in several parts of the kingdom, particularly in Kent and Essex, where they were headed by *Wat Tyler* and *Jack Straw*, the citizens of Exeter continued firm in the cause of their King; and in return for their loyalty, he confirmed their charters, and greatly enlarged their liberties and privileges: and when the King fitted out a powerful fleet in order to prevent the French from insulting the English coasts, the city sent to his assistance a large ship, which they armed, manned and victualled wholly at their own expence.

Wat Tyler's rebellion. Citizens of Exeter, firm in the King's interest. Charters, &c. renewed.

1384.

A great flood happened, which carried away part of Exe-bridge, and several people were drowned.

Exe-bridge damaged.

The Cordwainers and Curriers were first incorporated.

1387.

The plague again made great ravages in this City, and swept off a great number of its inhabitants.

1398.

*John Holland*, Earl of *Huntingdon* was, by patent, created Duke of Exeter.

First Duke of Exeter.

1399.

The King's blind attachment to his favorites, and their oppressions of his subjects, became so odious, that the nobility, gentry, and people at large, invited *Henry, Duke of Hereford*, \* (then an exile in France) to come over and deliver them from the slavery they were sunk into: this, *Henry* gladly accepted; and, landing at *Ravenspur* in *Yorkshire*, soon found himself at the head of 60,000 men.

King Richard deposed and murdered.

I 2

Richard,

\* Son of *John Gaunt*, late Duke of Lancaster, and grandson to *Edward the 3d*.

**CHAP. II.** *Richard*, finding himself deserted by his subjects, attempted to escape to *Ireland*; but was taken and committed prisoner to *Pomfret Castle*, and soon after deposed by Act of Parliament: *Henry* was recognized as King; and in a little time, the unfortunate *Richard* was inhumanly murdered, in his confinement.

**MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of RICHARD II.**

1378.	Henry Allen.	1389.
<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>	Peter Heighly.	<i>Richard Bosom.</i>
<i>Raymond Gosse.</i>	John Webb.	Adam Gould.
<i>William Down.</i>	1384.	Simon Grendon.
<i>Henry Soam.</i>	<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>	Tho. Smithayes.
<i>Peter Hadleigh.</i>	William Coscom.	William May.
1379.	John Pearse.	1390.
<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>	William Railsford.	<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>
John Read.	Robert Stoke.	John Shapleigh.
William Gervais.	1385.	John Russel.
John Russel.	<i>Adam Scutt.</i>	Raymond Gosse.
Richard Browne.	Tho. Smithayes.	Robert Eascom.
1380.	Peter Hadleigh.	1391.
<i>John Grey.</i>	Thomas Wondry.	<i>Richard Bosom.</i>
John Russel.	William Oke.	William Custom.
William Gervais.	1386.	William Gervais.
Henry Westcott.	<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>	Simon Grendon.
Henry Soam.	Simon Grendon.	William Oke.
1381.	Henry Hull.	1392.
<i>John Nymett.</i>	John Webb.	<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>
Richard Bosom.	John Shapleigh.	John Panton.
William Gervais.	1387.	John Russel.
Henry Westcott.	<i>Richard Bosom.</i>	Raymond Gosse.
William Coscom.	William Oke.	Henry Hull.
1382.	John Grills.	1393.
<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>	Richard Pewterer.	<i>Richard Bosom.</i>
William Gervais.	Baldwin Whiteleigh.	William Oke.
Simon Grendon.	1388.	William Gervais.
Baldwin Whiteleigh	<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>	Simon Grendon.
Tho. Smithayes.	Henry Allen.	William Coscom.
1383.	John Russel.	1394.
<i>John Talbot.</i>	William Gervais.	<i>Robert Wilsford.</i>
John Panton.	John Ponton.	Philip Shapleigh.
		Henry

Henry Hull.	William Wilsford.	Robert Easton.	CHAP. II.
John Ponton.	William Oke.	Thomas Wandry.	
Thomas Easton.	Robert Wyndett.	Ralph Swan.	

1395.

1397.

1399.

Simon Grendon.	Adam Scutt.	John Grey.
Thomas Wandry.	William Wilsford.	John Batten.
Richard Pewterer.	John Batten.	John Russel.
Roger Doly.	John Russel.	John Wilsford.
William Coscom.	Rich. Larkstoke.	John Shapleigh.

1396.

1398.

John Talbot.	Simon Grendon.
Henry Hull.	Richard Pewterer.

*Henry*, the first King of the house of *Lancaster*, began his reign the 30th September, 1399, and as he ascended the throne by the most indirect means, his crown proved a troublesome acquisition. The murder of *Richard* will be an eternal blot on his memory: he was naturally of a jealous temper; and in order to maintain his power, he put many of the principal nobility to death, who were adjudged to be the friends of the late monarch, among which was the late created Duke of *Exeter*: *John Holland*, † whom he caused to be beheaded.

A. D.  
1399.

Henry 4th.

Duke of  
Exeter be-  
headed.

1408.

The band of Music (now termed the city waits) were first instituted, to attend the Mayor on all solemn occasions.

City waits  
first institu-  
ted.

*Thomas*, Earl of *Dorset* and brother to the King was created Duke of *Exeter*.

1409.

The Mayor, *William Wilsford*, dying in his mayoralty, *Henry Hull* was elected for the residue of the year.

1412.

By a verdict, obtained this year, in the court of King's bench, it was confirmed, that the citizens of *Exeter* had a right to the passage and ferry at *Esmouth*; and that the *lastage*, *stallage* and *petty customs* (commonly called town duties) of all wares and merchandizes landed and discharged within the limits of the port of *Exeter* were the property of the said citizens, as being a parcel of the said city, held of the Dutchy of Cornwall by the fee-farm rent of 20*l.* a year, payable at the said Dutchy court.

Citizens  
confirmed  
in their  
right to  
town duties.

King *Henry* died on the 20th March, 1413, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Henry*, Prince of *Wales*.

1413.

† This Duke greatly re-edified the castle of *Exeter*, and lodgings therein, which in his time were esteemed as sumptuous edifices: he also erected a stately mansion at *Dartington* near *Totnes*; now the seat of *A. Champernown*, Esq.



**CHAP. II. MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Henry III.**

1400.	John Shapleigh.	John Fallow.
<i>William Wilsford.</i>	1405.	Thomas Easton.
Robert Easton.	<i>Simon Grendon.</i>	1449.
Rich. Kenneridge.	Peter Sturt.	<i>Richard Boon.</i>
Thomas Wandry.	Richard Pewterer.	John Shapleigh.
Peter Sturt.	Robert Cobley.	Robert Cobley.
1401.	John Coscom.	Stephen Frank.
<i>William Oke.</i>	1405.	Walter Cobley.
John Lake.	<i>Simon Grendon.</i>	1410.
John Wilsford.	Peter Sturt.	<i>Adam Scutt.</i>
Roger Doly.	Richard Pewterer.	Roger Gould.
John Shapleigh.	Robert Cobley.	Ralph Swan.
1402.	John Coscom.	John Cooper.
<i>William Wilsford.</i>	1406.	Robert Cobley.
Thomas Easton.	<i>William Wilsford.</i>	1411.
Nich. Boughwood.	John Batten.	<i>William Wilsford.</i>
John Shepherd.	Walter Cobley.	John Shepherd.
Richard Larkstoke.	John Exbridge.	John Batten.
1403.	Thomas Wandry.	John Lake.
<i>Henry Hull.</i>	1407.	Peter Sturt.
John Shapleigh.	<i>Adam Scutt.</i>	1412.
Robert Cobley.	Nich. Boughwood.	<i>Will. Wilsford, Ob.</i>
Peter Sturt.	John Lake.	<i>Henry Hull.</i>
Roger Doly.	Reynold Gould.	John Fallow.
1404.	John Shapleigh.	John Wilsford.
<i>William Wilsford.</i>	1408.	Stephen Frank.
John Wilsford.	<i>William Wilsford.</i>	Richard Cross.
Robert Okesty.	Richard Larkstoke.	
Thomas Wandry.	Henry Mayhew.	

A. D.  
1413.  
Henry 5th.

Henry the fifth gave but gloomy hopes, to his subjects, of his future government, having, during his father's life, been guilty of many foibles, and assembled with the most abandoned and dissolute profligates: however, no sooner had he taken possession of the throne than he banished (contrary to all expectations) his former companions, and, like the Sun, emerging from a cloud, broke out in full splendor, and proved himself to be an experienced soldier, a good politician, a sincere friend to justice, and a true lover of his subjects.

1415.

In the year 1415, Henry, in order to find employment for his

his restless Barons, and to gratify the warlike inclinations of his subjects, demanded of the *French* monarch a restitution of those provinces in *France* which had been wrested from his predecessors; and on receiving a refusal, with an arrogant answer to his just demands, he declared war, and landed in *France* with a powerful army: after taking several towns, he gained the ever memorable victory of *Agincourt*, notwithstanding the *French* army exceeded the *English* in number, by upwards of four to one. In this battle, the *French* lost a great number of Noblemen, and more than 10,000 common men, and 1,500 taken prisoners; when the loss, on the side of the *English*, amounted only to two Noblemen, four Knights, one Esquire, and twenty-eight privates.

CHAP. II.  
War declared against France.

Battle of Agincourt.

While the King was pursuing his conquests in *France*, he, in order to protect the *English* coasts from any depredations of the enemy, sent his writs to the different seaports of his kingdom, to fit out a powerful fleet: which was cheerfully complied with; and the *Devonshire* squadron, under the command of *Edward*, Lord *Courtenay*, and the Lord *Carew*, joined the King's fleet, which was commanded by *John*, Earl of *Bedford*. The *French* fleet attempting to relieve *Harfleur*, then besieged by the *English*, were totally defeated, with a great loss of men, and most of their ships taken and destroyed: in this battle, the *Devonshire* squadron led the van, and contributed greatly to the victory.

A. D.  
1416.

French fleet defeated.

This year, an ancient custom was confirmed, that if there be not a sufficient number of citizens, or inhabitants that are freeholders to be returned for a jury on a trial; that then a return may be made of other citizens, who have moveable goods sufficient.

1421.

Non freeholders to be returned on juries.

*Henry*, after having humbled the *French* nation, was seized by a bloody flux which terminated in his death at *Vincennes* in *France*, August 31st 1422, concluding a glorious and triumphant reign of 9 years and 5 months; and was succeeded by his only son, *Henry*, a child of nine months old.

1422.

#### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of HENRY V.

1413.

John Lake.

Robert Voisey.

Peter Start.

John Wilsford.

Wm. Shapleigh.

William Jew.

Thomas Sharp.

1416.

John Cook.

John Clark.

John Batten.

Ralph Swan.

1415.

Thomas Shapp.

John Batten.

Peter Scutt.

William Hull.

1414.

Roger Gould.

Thomas Hickley.

Thomas Easton.

Robert Copley.

Walter Bogbrook.

1417.

## CHAP. II.

1417.

1419.

1421.

*John Cook.*  
*John Clark.*  
*Will. Shapleigh.*  
*Nich. Trelawney.*  
*Step. Butterford.*

*Thomas Easton.*  
*John Shillingford.*  
*John Stipping.*  
*Ralph Dolbear.*  
*William Overton.*

*John Cook.*  
*Robert Voisey.*  
*John Salter.*  
*John Atyate.*  
*Nich. Trelawney.*

1418.

1420.

1422.

*John Batten.*  
*Robert Hickley.*  
*John Hull.*  
*Robert Voisey.*  
*Walter Crabb.*

*John Batten.*  
*John Shillingford.*  
*John Cutler.*  
*John Coscom.*  
*William Shapleigh.*

*Thomas Easton.*  
*John Cutler.*  
*William May.*  
*William Cook.*  
*John Stokeleigh.*

A. D.  
 1423.

Henry 6th.

*Henry* during his minority was placed under the care of *Thomas*, Duke of *Exeter*, and the *Bishop of Winchester*, for his education; while the administration of government was put into the hands of the Protector, *John*, Duke of *Bedford*, by whose interest the infant monarch was crowned King of *France* in *Paris*; and, for some years, the kingdom enjoyed the blessings of peace.

1424.  
 Subsidy  
 granted to  
 the King.

The King demanded a subsidy of *tonnage* and *poundage* of the inhabitants of this city, towards defraying the expences of his wars in *France* which was cheerfully granted.

This year a custom commenced of giving to the *Mayor* and *Aldermen*, at the feasts of *Christmas* and *Easter*, a certain quantity of bread and wine: commonly called *canon* bread and wine.

1428.

Bakers re-  
 fuse to  
 bake any  
 bread.

The *Master*, *Wardens*, and *Company of Bakers*, within this city (not liking the assize of bread, as set by the *Mayor*) made an order among themselves, that they would discontinue the custom of giving what was termed advantage bread, or one penny on a dozen; which the citizens murmuring at, the *Bakers*, in order to force a compliance, agreed not to bake any bread at all, unless the *Mayor* would set the assize according to their wills; but he, being a discreet, and sensible magistrate, and understanding the laws, he (after duly investigating the matter,) not only refused a compliance, but adjudged them to pay a heavy fine each, and committed the *Master*, *Wardens* and principal offenders to prison; where they were confined until they publicly acknowledged their crimes, and paid the several fines imposed on them.

Are fined  
 and com-  
 mitted to  
 Prison.

1436.

The dispute which had long existed between the *Mayor* and commonalty, and the *Dean* and Chapter of *St. Peter*, concerning the extent of the fee and manor of *St. Sidwell*, was terminated by an act of parliament, whereby the bounds

and

and limits of the said parish were ascertained: this act bears date the 4th May, 1436. CHAP. II.

This year, the Butchers confederated among themselves, that they would not keep any public standings in the shambles, but only sell their wares at their own dwelling-houses: two of them, *John Smith* and *John Taylor*, put the said agreement into execution; but on complaint being made to the Mayor, he ordered them to be fined, and committed to prison; where they remained till they revoked their agreement, and paid the said fine. A. D. 1437. Butchers refuse to keep the shambles. Are fined & sent to prison.

A sharp famine made dreadful havoc in *England* and *France*, which was followed by a great plague that carried off a great number of the inhabitants of both kingdoms. 1438. Famine and plague.

An act of common council was made, that every inhabitant of this city (not being free thereof) who shall sell *bread* or *ale*, within the city, or liberties thereof, shall pay for such licence 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. every quarter of a year, for the use of the city. 1442. Non free-men to pay quarterly 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d.

*John Shillingford*, being elected Mayor, refused to be sworn, and to execute the office; complaint of which was made to the King, on which he sent a writ under his privy seal, commanding the said *John Shillingford* to accept of the office on the penalty of 1,000*l.* in consequence of this he came to the guildhall on the Monday after the feast of *St. Valentine*, and there took the customary oaths; and notwithstanding he entered into the office so reluctantly, he discharged it with great honor to himself and benefit to his fellow citizens. 1444.

A place for liberal education being much wanted in this city, the Dean and Chapter converted an ancient chapel dedicated to the *Holy Trinity* † (situated in what is now termed *Musgrave's Alley*; then, *Trinity Lane*) into a school, which they founded by the name of the High School, for the better educating of youth in useful learning; and appointed a Master, for whose accommodation, they erected a convenient house, adjoining the school for his residence, and settled a salary on him of 20*l.* per annum. 1445. High School founded.

A long and troublesome suit at law, in which *Bishop Lacy*, and the Dean and Chapter of *St. Peter* were plaintiffs; and the Mayor and Commonalty of this City, defendants, concerning the liberties and bounds of the Mayor and his officers' jurisdiction, was referred to the decision of *Thomas Courtenay*, Earl 1447.

† This Chapel, after having been desecrated, and used for several purposes, has of late years been restored again to the purpose of divine worship; and is now used as such by a large congregation, the followers of the late Rev. Mr. John Wesley.

CHAP. II. Earl of *Devon*, and Sir *William Bonville*, Knight, who after a full enquiry into the claims of both parties awarded, that the Mayor and his officers, according to their ancient charters, confirmed to them by his Majesty's predecessors, had a right to carry their *maces*, within the said Church, cemetery and fee, without any molestation or disturbance, from the Bishop, Dean or Chapter, and their successors, or any of their officers, for ever.

Mayor's officers have a right to carry their maces within the Cathedral, and its liberty.

*Exe-bridge* now becoming ruinous (the lower part, with the piers only, being built of stone, whilst the upper part being of framed timber gravelled over) it was dangerous to the passengers; therefore the Mayor, *John Shillingford*, proposed the rebuilding of it, and made application to Cardinal *Kemp*, Archbishop of *York* (with whom he had an intimate acquaintance) for his assistance therein; but the sudden death of the Mayor, prevented, for that time, any further proceedings in this salutary work.

A. D.  
1448.

The King demands a loan of 3 ships which is complied with.

The Bishop of *Winchester*, *Thomas Earl of Devon*, and *John Lord Stourton*, were commissioned by the King to demand a loan of three ships, properly furnished and victualled, to convey soldiers into *Bretagne* in France; this supply was speedily and cheerfully granted by the city of *Exeter*: a convincing proof of the opulence of the inhabitants, and the share they had in the commerce of these times; when the city of *London* was subsidized, on this occasion; at six ships only.

1450.

The names of the assistant officers to the Mayor (which hitherto had been termed *Seneschalli*, or *Stewards*) were altered to *Bailiivi*, or *Bailiffs*.

Jack Cades rebellion.

This year there were great commotions in several parts of the kingdom, principally occasioned by the oppressions of the Barons and Clergy on the Commons; the latter of which assembled in great numbers in the counties of *Kent* and *Essex*, under the command of *John Cade*, an *Irishman*; who (assuming the name of *Mortimer*, and pretending to be of royal extraction) made himself master of the city of *London*, where he behaved with the greatest insolence, and cruelty. On this occasion, the King sent his royal mandate to the Mayor and citizens of *Exeter*, commanding them to be strictly watchful, and to prevent any rebels from gaining admittance into their city: the citizens accordingly put themselves in arms, repaired the walls, scoured the ditches, and held themselves in readiness to repel any sudden attack; but the defeat of the rebels, and death of *Cade*, happily freed the country, for a short time, from civil commotions, and domestic broils.

The King's letter to the citizens to prepare themselves for defence.

1451.

The King, in his tour through the *West*, on his entry into the

the county of *Devon*, lodged one night at the abbey of *Ford*; † **CHAP. II.**  
 from thence he went to *Ottery St. Mary*, where he was re-  
 ceived with great solemnity by the Canons, and after resting  
 there two nights, proceeded on his journey towards this city, The King  
 and was met by the Knights and Gentlemen of the county of visits this  
*Devon*, at *Honiton's Clist*; and soon after, by the Mayor city.  
 and Commonalty of this city, in number upwards of 300 His recep-  
 persons, richly apparelled in their livery gowns of a murry tion.  
 colour, with black velvet capes and facings, having on each  
 shoulder a coif, on which was embroidered the city arms, (on Hollinga-  
 a shield, party per pale, gules and sable, a castle triple tower- head.  
 ed, or;) and at *Livery-dole*, was received by the clergy in  
 their copes and vestments, and conducted into the city: at  
 the Cross, without Southgate, the Mayor delivered to the  
 King, the keys of the gate, and rode in before him, bare-  
 headed, carrying the mace, through *Southgate-street*, § to  
*Carfoix*, \* and from thence to *St. Michael's gate*, † where  
 he was received by the Bishop, Canons, and choir, in their  
 richest copes. The King then alighted from his horse, and  
 proceeded on foot to the cathedral up to the high altar, where  
 he remained during divine service; and was thence con-  
 ducted to the Bishop's palace, and there continued eight  
 days. During his residence at the palace; he (with his  
 suite) was elegantly entertained at the joint expence of the  
 church and city.

The King while staying in the city, issued out a com-  
 mission to his Judges to hold a court of general gaol delivery, Two men  
 and for that purpose they kept their court in the Bishop's found guilty  
 hall; two men were found guilty of high treason, and of high trea-  
 son.  
 ordered to be executed; but the Bishop and Clergy asserting  
 that the Judges sat in commission within their sanctuary,  
 contrary to the privileges of Holy Church, the King, to ap-  
 pease their clamours, pardoned both the offenders.

From the weakness of the King's government, and the  
 disagreement among the chief commanders, the *English* were  
 dispossessed of all their conquests in *France*, except the town  
 of *Calais*, with a small territory belonging to it: this occa-  
 sioned great discontents at home; and the partiality of the  
 King for his favorites, so disgusted the noblemen, that many  
 openly espoused the cause of the *Duke of York*; and hence, Isaac.

K 2

a scene

† Ford Abbey is a detached part of Devon, near four Miles from Ax-  
 minster.

§ It appears from this account that the principal road leading into the  
 city, from the East, was the Magdalen-street road.

\* Carfoix—the four ways.

† Now Broadgate.

- CHAP. II. a scene of anarchy and confusion prevailed throughout the kingdom. A dispute arose at this time between *Thomas Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, and the *Lord William Bonville*, Baron of *Shute*; which, according to some authors, originated about a dog; but it seems more probable, that it arose from the complexion of the times, and the different interests of the principals: the *Earl* being a strenuous defender of the house of *Lancaster*; and the *Lord Bonville*, of that of *York*. The quarrel concerning the dog, might heighten the animosity. The two Barons agreed to decide their differences by the strength of their arms; and accordingly both parties met on *Clist-heath*, near this city, where (after a sharp conflict, and several being killed, and wounded on both sides) *Lord Bonville* was defeated, and, with his followers, retreated to *Exeter*: they were received within the walls, and the gates were closed after them, to prevent the pursuers following: this reception gave great offence to the *Earl*, who endeavoured to force an entrance, but was repelled by the citizens. At length, by the mediation of the resident clergy, the parties were seemingly satisfied, and departed by different routes. †
- Quarrel between the Earl of Devon and Lord Bonville.
- Holingshead.
- Battle of Clistheath.
- Lord Bonville defeated takes refuge in Exeter.
- A. D. 1457.
- Eastgate falls down.
- 1458.
- Midsummer watch.
- Citizen's arms to be kept in repair.
- The *Eastgate* of the city becoming ruinous (being coeval with the walls) fell down in the middle of the day; but providentially, without hurt to any person, though several were passing by at the time.
- It was customary in those days, on midsummer eve, to form a grand procession, in which, the mayor accompanied by the aldermen and common-council in their robes, preceded by the city waites, sergeants at mace, and other officers, all mounted on horseback, and followed by the principal citizens, and incorporated trades in armour: each company being distinguished by sumptuous pageants and devices proper to their several trades; § and thus they paraded the city walls, to examine whether any repairs were necessary, and then passed in the same procession through the principal streets: each individual, and company endeavoured to outvie each other, in the brightness of armour, and sumptuousness of equipage: this was termed the midsummer watch, the principal intent of which was, to inspect the arms of the citizens, to see if they were kept in proper repair, and fit for immediate

† It does not appear from history, that the city of *Exeter* openly espoused the cause of either of the contending parties; but it should seem that this kind reception of *Bonville* was owing to the animosity that had so long existed between the *Courtenay* family and the citizens.

§ Each company was commonly preceded by a Statue, as large as life, (finely painted and gilt,) of the tutelar saint, to whom the fraternity was dedicated: as, *St. Peter*, of the *Fishmongers*: *St. Luke*, of the *Painters*, &c.

immediate use; also to punish, by fines, such as were found **CHAP. II.**  
deficient in such care of their arms.

At the procession of this year, a dispute arose between the *Cordwainers* and *Tuckers* concerning the right of precedence; this, the Mayor appeased, by ordering the companies to march together, one of each company hand in hand. *John Kelly*, the late Mayor, refusing to attend in his place, on this days watch, according to ancient custom, was fined ten marks, which he accordingly paid. Disputes about precedence, between, the Cordwainers and Tuckers.

Some young gentlemen happening to quarrel, in the body of the Cathedral of *St. Peter*, they proceeded to blows, and in this affray, several persons were much hurt and wounded; this (according to the superstition of the times) so prophaned the church, by having human blood spilt in it, that the Dean and Chapter ordered the doors to be shut, and divine service to cease, until the church could be newly consecrated: this (as the Bishop was absent) was performed by one *Thomas*, a suffragan to the Bishop of *Bath*. \* A. D. 1459.

The Duke of *York* having taken the King prisoner at the battle of *St. Alban*, and causing himself to be declared Protector, assumed the whole government into his own hands, leaving the King nothing but the empty name; the Queen endeavoured to release the royal captive, assembled a body of troops, and sent Letters to his friends, desiring their assistance: the citizens of *Exeter* commiserating the unhappy state of their monarch, cheerfully raised a considerable sum by voluntary contributions, and also levied 31 soldiers; these they armed and maintained at their own expence, and sent them, with the money, to the Queen's army, accompanied by a messenger to assure her of their stedfast loyalty to the King, and their readiness to assist him to the utmost of their power. The Queen gave battle to the Duke at *Wakefield*, which proved fatal to him, he, and his second son (the young Earl of *Rutland*, 12 years of age) being slain in the conflict, his army totally routed, and the King rescued from his captivity. St. Peter's church prophaned and shut up.

This sunshine of relief to the *Lancastrian* party, lasted but a short time. The Duke of *York*'s eldest son, *Edward*, Earl of *March*, and *Richard Nevil*, Earl of *Warwick*, having collected together the scattered remains of the routed army, and being 1460.

\* From the confusion through the kingdom, by the pretensions of the houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, it is probable that this quarrel arose among some of the partisans on each side, who happening to meet in the cathedral, where (notwithstanding the sacredness of the place) they could not prevent their animosities from breaking out into acts of violence. King taken prisoner.



**CHAP. II** ing-joined by the whole power of the *Yorkists*, again took the field. On Palm Sunday, 1461, they met the Queen's army at *Tewton*, where a bloody battle was fought, which lasted from morning till night, and ended in the total defeat of the *Lancastrians*.

Battle of  
Tewton.

The Queen  
defeated &  
the King  
deposed.

Carfax  
conduit re-  
built.

In this battle (according to historians) fell the flower of the *English* nobility, and 36,776 men were slain; by this decisive victory, the whole of the *Lancastrian* power was broken; the King again fell into the hands of his enemies; and, being deposed by an act of (a time serving) parliament, *Edward*, Earl of *March*, was proclaimed King, and crowned at *London* on the 29th June following.

This year, the great conduit at *Carfax* (being ruinous) was new built, chiefly through the interest of *William Duke*, late Mayor, who not only took on himself the overseeing of the work, but covered it with lead, at his own expence. A particular account of this conduit, with a western view of it will be given in its place.

### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of HENRY VI.

1423.	William Bishop.	Andrew Thring.
<i>John Batten.</i>	1427.	Walter Pope.
<i>John Hull.</i>	<i>John Hull.</i>	1431.
<i>Wm. Bishop.</i>	<i>John Cross.</i>	<i>William Cook.</i>
<i>Wm. French.</i>	<i>Stephen Butterford.</i>	<i>John Cross.</i>
<i>Wm. Upton.</i>	<i>John Trelawny.</i>	<i>John Smert.</i>
1424.	<i>John Bacon.</i>	<i>John Trolly.</i>
<i>John Cook.</i>	1428.	<i>Walter Merryfield.</i>
<i>John Salter.</i>	<i>John Shillingford.</i>	1432.
<i>Thomas Nymett.</i>	<i>William Upton.</i>	<i>Thomas Cook.</i>
<i>John Coscom.</i>	<i>John Smert.</i>	<i>John Bacon.</i>
<i>Nich. Trelawny.</i>	<i>John Cook.</i>	<i>John Kirton.</i>
1425.	<i>Wm. Servington.</i>	<i>Walter Pope.</i>
<i>Robert Voysey.</i>	1429.	<i>Ralph Crudge.</i>
<i>William May.</i>	<i>John Shillingford.</i>	1433.
<i>Peter Plenty.</i>	<i>William Upton.</i>	<i>John Salter.</i>
<i>John Cross.</i>	<i>John Oram.</i>	<i>Nicholas Athole.</i>
<i>John Smert.</i>	<i>John Beaufitz.</i>	<i>Richard Orengc.</i>
1426.	<i>Bennet Drew.</i>	<i>John Bagg.</i>
<i>Thomas Easton.</i>	1430.	<i>Robert Ford.</i>
<i>William Oke.</i>	<i>John Hull.</i>	1434.
<i>William Upton.</i>	<i>Thomas Cook.</i>	<i>William Cook.</i>
<i>Walter Merryfield.</i>	<i>Nicholas Athole.</i>	<i>John</i>

- John Kirton. 1441. John Spynce. 1448.
- Andrew Thring. *Thomas Cook.*
- John Bagg. Hugh Germin.
- Thomas Parson. *Thomas Parsons.*
1435. John Coscom.
- Thomas Cook.* John James. 1442.
- John Kirton. *John Cutler.*
- Andrew Thring. Peter Bray.
- John Bagg. John Obleigh.
- Thomas Parson. John Stanbury.
1436. Andrew Thring.
- John Cutler.* 1443.
- Bennet Drew. *Hugh Germin.*
- John Coscom. William Crymell.
- John Brown. John Clerk.
- John Merrifield. John Peacock.
1437. Thomas Rouse.
- John Hull.* 1444.
- Richard Orange. *John Shillingford.*
- William Atwill. John Beaufitz.
- John Kelly. John Taylor.
- William Hodge. John Gage.
1438. Nicholas Hamlyn.
- Bennet Drew.* 1445.
- Hugh Germin. *John Hull.*
- Vincent Hart. John Clerk.
- John Coscom. John Germin.
- William Duke. John Betty.
1439. Walter Swan.
- William Cook.* 1446.
- John Bagg. *John Shillingford.*
- John Smert. John Germin.
- Robert Ford. Richard Drewell.
- William Hoody. John Babridge.
1440. Thomas Sampson.
- William Upton.* 1447.
- John Keluleigh. *John Shillingford.*
- Bennet Winchelsea. John Germin.
- William Crymell. John Hammond.
- John Latch. Nicholas Hamlyn.
- John Cutler.* 1449.
- William Duke.*
- Walter Sams.*
- Thomas Evelton.*
- John Avell.*
- Hugh Germin.* 1450.
- Bennet Winchelsea.*
- William Bishop.*
- William Atwell.*
- Thomas Sampson.*
- William Crymell.*
- William Bishop.*
- William Efford.*
- John Friend.*
- Robert May.* 1451.
- Hugh Germin.*
- Thomas Rouse.*
- Thomas Sampson.*
- John Salmon.*
- John Hammond.* 1452.
- Walter Pope.*
- John Avell.*
- Thomas Evelston.*
- Andrew Thring.*
- Walter Pafford.* 1453.
- Hugh Germin.*
- John Tillard.*
- Walter York.*
- Robert Smith.*
- Henry Dolling.* 1454.
- Richard Orange.*
- John Betty.*
- Vincent

CHAP. II. Vincent Hart.	1457.	John Turner.
Thomas Kelly.	<i>John Kelly.</i>	Richard Rumwell.
John Spyne.	John Friend.	John Thomas.
1455.	William Hogge.	1460.
<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	John Turner.	<i>William Duke.</i>
Richard Drewell.	John Hammond.	Tho. Calwoodly.
Thomas Evelton.	1458.	William Hogge.
Thomas Bowyer.	<i>Richard Drewell.</i>	Thomas Hayle.
John Turner.	Robert Smyth.	Richard Duke.
1456.	William Hogge.	1461.
<i>William Duke.</i>	John Hamlyn.	<i>John Kelly.</i>
Tho. Calwoodly.	John Barsley.	John Hamlyn.
Richard Jeffery.	1459.	John Hammond.
Robert Smyth.	<i>John Betty.</i>	John Turner.
William Fry.	John Spyne.	Thomas Bowyer.

A. D. 1461. *Edward* the fourth, did not long enjoy his crown in peace; the Queen having escaped with her son, the Prince of *Wales* into *Scotland*, prevailed on the *Scottish* King to assist her with a body of troops; these were augmented by a great number of auxiliaries sent to her by the *French* Monarch, and, thus strengthened, she again entered *England*, in 1463: but was defeated by *John Neville* Baron of *Montacute*, at the head of a numerous army; the unfortunate *Henry*, not knowing whither to retire, and doubting the fidelity of the *Scotch*, endeavoured to conceal himself in *England*; but, being discovered, and seized, was carried to *London*, in the most ignominious manner, and committed close prisoner to the Tower.

1463. *Henry* again imprisoned.

1464. The Guildhall of this city being in a ruinous state, was built in a more convenient and elegant manner: the court of *Hustings* was floored with plank, and elevated above the pavement, wainscotted round, and proper seats were erected for the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common council, and galleries for the Juries. †

Printing first brought into *England*, by *John Caxton*, a citizen of *London*, who, being sent to *Haerlem*, persuaded one of the compositors

† There is an old building now standing in *Waterbear-street*, which according to tradition, was the ancient Guildhall; and, from the stile of the building, and its great extent, this seems very probable. The architecture is evidently Saxon, and it appears to have been erected long before the Norman conquest. Whether or not, the hall was removed at this time to its present scite cannot be ascertained, as no historian mentions it. The present Guildhall was erected on the ground originally occupied by a Chapel dedicated to *St. George*.

ters to carry off a set or font of letters, and to embark with him, in the night, for *England*: the first Printing Press in this kingdom, was erected in *Westminster Abbey*; and soon after, a second was set up in *Tavistock Abbey*, in this county.

The streets and passages in this City being unpaved, and full of noisome and dangerous pits, an act was procured, (chiefly through the interest of *Thomas Calwoodley* and *Richard Clark*, the representatives in parliament) for the paving thereof, and removing all nuisances; and thus the city became more pleasant and healthy.

A dispute arose between the Bishop of Exeter and the citizens, concerning a tower, on the city walls, at the lower end of the Bishop's orchard, and where the Bishop's prison was kept; for which reason he claimed it as an inheritance of right. A trial commenced before the King's Justices of Assize, at the Castle; and a verdict was given in favor of the citizens, who, soon after, caused the tower to be taken down, and the materials thereof to be used towards the reparation of the city walls.

A difference between *King Edward* and his principal supporter, the Earl of *Warwick*, now burst into a flame: the Earl joined by his brother, the Archbishop of *York*, the Marquis of *Montacute* and *George Duke of Clarence* (*Edward's* own brother) raised a powerful army, defeated *Edward*, took him prisoner, and sent him to *Middleham castle*, in *Yorkshire*: but he found means, (by bribing his Guards,) to make his escape; and, having levied a greater army than the former, attacked the Earl, so furiously, that he made his escape to *France*; and the Duke of *Clarence*, escaping westward, took refuge in *Exeter*, where (in regard to his affinity to the *King*) he was treated with great respect, and entertained at the City's expence, till a ship could be procured for his conveyance to *France*.

The Earl soon returned, and defeated *Edward*: forced him to abdicate the throne, and fly to *Holland*: he then restored *Henry*, and, summoning a parliament, *Edward* was declared a traitor and usurper, and all his estates were confiscated.

The next year, *Edward* returned to *England* with 2000 men, and levying, in a few days, a powerful army, marched towards *London*, and was met by *Warwick*, at *Barnet*; where, after a severe conflict, the Earl was defeated and slain. *Edward* immediately proceeded to *London*; the unfortunate *Henry* was again imprisoned; and *Edward* re-ascended the throne.

The Causeway leading to *Cowley bridge*, was paved by a Priest. ‡

L

Queen

‡ Part of this pavement is still remaining (1800.) There is a tradi-

CHAP II.

A. D.  
1466.

Act for paving the Streets.

1467.

Dispute with the Bishop concerning a tower on the walls.

1469.

Edward defeated and taken prisoner.

Escapes defeats Warwick.

Clarence escapes to Exeter.

1470.

Dethroned, flies to Holland.

1471.

Warwick defeated and slain.

Causeway to Cowley bridge paved by a Priest.

## CHAP. II.

A. D.  
1472.Henry's  
standard set  
up; and the  
Lancastrians  
assembled at  
Exeter.Queen's army  
defeated—she is  
taken prisoner—her  
son murdered—Earl of  
Devon slainHenry  
murdered.  
1478.Edward  
comes to  
Exeter.

Queen Margaret landed (with forces which she had procured in France) at *Weymouth*: this gave fresh spirits to the *Lancastrians*, who assembled themselves in different parts of the kingdom: the Duke of *Somerset* and the Earl of *Devon* came to *Exeter*, where they set up the standard of King *Henry*, and sent for Sir *Hugh Courtney* of *Powderham*, Sir *John Arundel*, and the principal men of their party in *Devon* and *Cornwall*, who immediately joined them, together with their followers, which were, almost, the whole power of the two counties. The Queen advanced to *Bath*, and was there joined by the *Devon* and *Cornwall* forces. Edward was not idle: he soon assembled a powerful army, and met the Queen at *Tewkesbury*: here a bloody battle ensued, which ended in the total defeat of the Queen's army, who, with her son, the Prince of *Wales* and the Duke of *Somerset*, were made prisoners; the Earl of *Devon*, with many persons of note, and upwards of 3000 of their followers were slain: the Queen was treated, by the conquerors, with the greatest indignity, and, (the day after the battle) the Prince of *Wales* was most barbarously murdered by the Duke of *Gloucester*, (in the presence of Edward;) and the Duke of *Somerset*, with others of the Nobility were beheaded, without any form of trial.

Edward not thinking himself secure while Henry was living, hinted his fears to his ferocious Brother, the Duke of *Gloucester*; who repaired to the Tower, where he stabbed Henry to the heart. Edward, thus freed from his rival, made a tour through his dominions; and, approaching this city, in company with the Queen, and the prince, his son, he was met, at *Livery dele*, by the Mayor, and principal citizens, on horseback, richly apparelled in the livery of the city: at his entrance into *Eastgate*, the Mayor presented him with the Keys and Maces, which the King returned: he then proceeded to the Guildhall, (the Mayor riding bareheaded, and carrying a mace before him) where he was presented, in the name of the citizens, with a purse containing 100 gold nobles, and the Queen and Prince with 20*l.* in gold, each: this was most graciously received; and the King, in return for their loyalty

on that this Priest was guilty of Fornication and Murder; having first debauched a young woman, who proved, afterwards, with child; and that he, in order to hide his shame, enticed her into *Duryard* wood, and there murdered her; this crime being discovered, he was, by way of penance, condemned to execute this work himself, without any assistance; and that he was seven years in completing it. There seems some marks of probability in this, when we consider those days of ignorance and superstition; that the clergy were exempt from the secular power, and that, let their crimes have been ever so heinous, penance was the only punishment.

loyalty, at his departure took his sword from his side, and gave it to the Mayor, to be carried before him, and his seatmen, on all public occasions. § CHAP. II.

*Edward*, in the course of his journey, exercised the greatest cruelty on the partisans of the house of *Leicester*: upwards of 1400 Noblemen and Gentlemen (adherents to King *Henry's* interest) were ordered, in cool blood, to be put to death; and he even caused his own brother, the Duke of *Clarence*, to be drowned in a butt of *Malmsey* wine: these executions struck the nation with terror; and this appears to have given reason for the civil reception he met with from the citizens of *Exeter* (more out of fear than love) as they had, through the whole course of these troubles, adhered to the cause of *Henry*, whose misfortunes and they could not so soon forget.

Upwards of 1400 Noblemen and Gentlemen executed.

The corporation of *Taylors* procured a new charter from the King, which gave offence to the Mayor and common council, who conceived it to be an infringement on their liberties: they, therefore, commenced a lawsuit, which was carried on, with great acrimony and expence, for two years; at length the King interfered, and sent his orders, under his private seal, to *Dr. Peter Courtney*, then Dean of this Cathedral, commanding both parties to come to a final issue. The Dean accordingly acquainted them of the King's orders which put a stop to further proceedings in law: however, the animosity continued for several years after.

A. D. 1475.

The Taylors procure a new charter from the King.

Lawsuit commenced thereon

The country *Bakers* making a common practice of bringing their bread into the city, and hawking it from house to house, to the great detriment of the city *Bakers*, and repugnant to their franchises, they preferred a complaint to the Mayor, who, with his brethren, (in common council) enacted a bye law, which restrained them from hawking, but gave them liberty to bring their bread to the public market, and, to have standings for the sale thereof (on market days only) near the great conduit. \*

1477.

Complaint of the city Bakers against the country ones.

A great pestilence raged throughout the kingdom, from the beginning of September 1479, to the end of November 1480, which swept away an incredible number of people in the cities of *London*, and *Exeter*.

1479.

Great pestilence.

Complaints being made against *John Bonnefant*, one of the Attornies of the Provost court, in this city, as being guilty

1480.

L 2

of

§ Notwithstanding this donation of a sword, it does not appear in history that any swordbearer was appointed to that office until 13 of Henry 7th, A. D. 1497.

\* This custom has not been discontinued many years: the writer of this well remembers when the country bakers used to bring their bread in panniers, and stand with it at the upper end of Cook row, between the *Globe Alehouse*, and the corner of *Five-street*.

**CHAP. II.** of forgeries and other misdemeanors; a thorough investigation took place, and, the crimes being proved against him, he was disfranchised, and forbid to practice any more in that court; but not regarding this, and continuing his infamous conduct, a complaint was renewed against him to the King, who sent a commission to *Thomas, Marquis of Dorset*, the Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, to hear and determine the same: the Marquis came to *Exeter*; and, after a fair trial, finding him guilty of the crimes laid to his charge, passed this remarkable sentence upon him, that he should be carried through the city on horseback, on a market day, with a paper fixed to his breast, on which should be legibly written, *For forging false deeds and evidences, and counterfeiting seals, evidently proved*; and the sentence was executed accordingly.

John Bon-  
enfant an  
Attorney  
found guilty  
of forgery

Remarkable  
sentence upon  
him.

1481. The charter of incorporation of the *Cordwainers* and *Curriers* of this city, was renewed under the common seal thereof.

1482. The *Bakers* were incorporated by the Mayor and common council, under their common seal.

The charter of the *Glovers* and *Skinner*s was also renewed.

An order was made by the Mayor and Common council, that every Receiver general of this city, should, on particular days, wear a scarlet gown, the same as the Mayor, and Aldermen, but, for distinction, without a tippet of fur.

1483. The King died of a fever, on the 9th of April 1483, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward.

### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of EDWARD IV.

1462,	Richard Baker.	Robert Russel.
<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	1465.	Thomas Pyke.
John Thomas.	<i>Richard Drewell.</i>	Nicholas Nawns.
William Aysh.	John Hammond.	1468.
Walter Gervais.	Robert Symons.	<i>John Hamlyn.</i>
Thomas Hayle.	John Coming.	Robert Chubb.
1463.	John Ruet.	Thomas Bowyer.
<i>Richard Drewell.</i>	1466.	Richard Nawns.
Richard Jeffery.	<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	John Luffingcot.
John Hammond,	Thomas Hayle.	1469.
John Coming.	Richard Clarke.	<i>Robert Smith.</i>
Henry Winchelsea.	William Obley.	John Coming.
1464.	Stephen Rudgway.	William Fownding
<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	1467.	Robert Newton.
Richard Rumwell.	<i>Thomas Calwoodley.</i>	Robert Giles.
John Hart.	Richard Baker.	1470.
Robert Chubb.		<i>Hugh</i>

<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	John Atwill.	John Hampton.
Richard Clarke.	David Johns.	John Coleshill.
John Orenge.	Thomas Ivelton.	1479.
Thomas Bond.	John Starr.	<i>John Atwill.</i>
John Gibbs.	1475.	Robert Russell.
1471.	<i>John Orenge.</i>	John Atwill.
<i>Richard Jeffery Ob.</i>	Stephen Rudgway.	John Harlewin.
<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	Roger Worth.	John Weston.
Walter Gervais.	Henry Hanneford.	1480.
David Johns.	John Taylor.	<i>Thomas Calwoodley.</i>
John Tybott.	1476.	Robert Symons.
John Bernard.	<i>John Atwill.</i>	William Duke.
1472.	David Johns.	John Matthews.
<i>Richard Clarke.</i>	Matthew Jubb.	Henry Redway.
John Orenge.	Richard Waggott.	1481.
John Atwill.	John Germin.	<i>Richard Drewell.</i>
William Dark.	1477.	John Rewer.
Thomas Ivelton.	<i>John Kelly.</i>	John Down.
1473.	Roger Worth.	John Calwoodley.
<i>Richard Rummell.</i>	Robert Newton.	William Lang.
William Obleigh.	John Starr.	1482.
John Tybott.	John Gibbs.	<i>Roger Worth.</i>
Robert Bonnefant.	1478.	Matthew Jubb.
Richard Byrch.	<i>William Obleigh.</i>	Thomas Pyke.
1474.	Robert Newton.	William King.
<i>Hugh Germin.</i>	Richard Germin.	John Slugg.

*Gloucester*, who had (as before observed) already steeped his hands in royal blood, got (under pretensions of their safety) the young *King*, with his brother, the Duke of *York* into his possession, and shut them up in the Tower of London; where, by his assassins, he caused the young King (then but 12 years of age) and his brother, to be smothered in their beds, after a short reign (if it may be so termed) of two months and 12 days.

*Gloucester*, having thus removed the principal objects to his ambitious views, procured a parliament for his purpose, who bastardized the posterity of his brothers (*Edward* and *Clarence*) and voted him the vacant throne, as the only lineal descendant of the Duke of *York*: but a confederacy was formed, against the usurper, by many of the principal nobility of both parties, in favor of *Henry*, Earl of *Richmond*: many of the principal men, in *Devon* and *Cornwall* joined in this confederacy,

A. D.  
1483.  
Edward 5.  
The young  
King and  
his Brother  
murdered  
in the tower  
Richard 3.  
elected  
King.



**CHAP. II.** federacy, among these were *Sir Edward Courtenay*, *Peter Courtenay* Bishop of *Exeter*, *Sir William Courtenay*, and others of great note. †

Richard comes to Exeter.

Special commission held at Torrington.

Sir Thomas St. Leger, & Thomas Rayne Esq. beheaded at Exeter.

Richard's reception at Exeter.

*Richard* soon got intelligence of the plot, and marched against the revolvers; who were headed by the Duke of Buckingham: and the Duke being deserted by his army, was betrayed, taken prisoner, and beheaded immediately; this struck terror into the others, who endeavoured individually, to escape: *Richard* marched westward, (in order to smother the very embers of the revolt,) and came to this city, where he had before sent *Lord Scroop*, with a special commission to try the conspirators; accordingly a court was held for that purpose, at *Torrington*; where, *Thomas*, Marquis of *Dorset*; *Peter Courtenay*, Bishop of *Exeter*; *Sir Edward Courtenay*; *Walter Courtenay*, his brother, and others (to the number of 500) who had found means to escape, were outlawed; and *Sir Thomas St. Leger* (who had married *Richard's* own sister) and *Thomas Rayne Esq.* were found guilty of high treason, taken to *Exeter* and beheaded at the *Carfois*. ‡

On the King's entrance into this city, he was received at the Eastgate, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common council, in their robes, accompanied by the corporated bodies, in their livery gowns; and *Thomas Hert*, the Recorder, congratulated him in an elegant oration: § (for which the city bestowed on him a scarlet gown;) the Mayor then delivered to the King, the maces and keys of the city gates, and presented him with a purse containing 900 gold nobles; the King then returned the maces and keys, and was conducted to the Bishop's palace, where he lodged during his stay, and was elegantly entertained for the time, at the city's expence: as were also the noblemen, and others, of his suite at the houses of the principal citizens: the King visited the chief places of the city, and was highly pleased with its pleasant and healthy situation, as well as the strength, and elevated

side

† *Mr. Carew*, in his survey of *Cornwall*, says that, so great was the influence of the Courtenay family at this period, that the inhabitants, both of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, flocked to their standard.

‡ Corruptly from the French, *Quatre voir*, the four ways: this was not so contracted by buildings, as at present; but formed a Square, (where the streets crossed each other;) and at each corner was a statue, similar to that now remaining at the corner of Northgate-street: one of these (some years since) stood in *Alderman Copland's* court, (now *Mr. Hunt's* Painter) and was supposed to have formed one angle of the square.

§ The Recorder could not say much in praise of *Richard's* virtues: but, as many of the citizens were involved in the late conspiracies (from their connexions with the Courtenay family,) they, no doubt dreaded his vindictive disposition, and endeavoured to soften his resentment: and they succeeded to their wishes.

acts of the castle: \* and he returned to *London* fully gratified with his reception at *Exeter*. CHAP. II.

The front of the Guildhall, and the Council chamber was rebuilt. A. D. 1484.

*Richard*, expecting an invasion from the *Earl of Richmond* sent letters to the Mayor of *Exeter*, by *Sir Ralph Hastings*, demanding a supply of 80 soldiers, who were leived on the instant, completely armed, and sent, under the Knight's command, to the place appointed; where they remained for 80 days, being maintained at the city's expence; but as no invasion took place this year, they were dismissed, and sent home again. The King demand 20 soldiers who are sent on the instant.

The universal discontent in the kingdom seemed to further the *Earl of Richmond's* pretensions; and, great numbers of *English* exiles (who fled from *Richard's* tyranny) joining him daily, encouraged him to proceed in his intended expedition: he therefore, set out from *Harfleur* the 30th of July, 1485, and landed safely at *Milford-haven*, in *Wales*: he was accompanied by the exiles, and nearly, 2000 men, who had been sent to his assistance by the *French King*, and on his landing, he was joined by *Sir Ralph ap Thomas*, at the head of a considerable body of *Welshmen*, and by *Sir William Stanley* at the head of 2000 more: his army thus encreasing daily, he marched forward and was met by *Richard*, at *Bosworth* in *Leicestershire*: *Richard's* army was defeated, and he himself slain, while the field of battle resounded on all sides, "Long live King Henry the seventh." 1485.

The Earl of Richmond lands in Wales.

Battle of Bosworth.

Richard slain; and Richmond proclaimed King.

#### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of EDWARD V. and RICHARD III.

1483.

*John Atwill.*  
*John Coleshill.*  
*William Dark.*  
*Thomas Pyke.*  
*John Symons.*

1484.

*Matthew Jubb.*  
*John Weston.*  
*John Hooker.*  
*John Whitelock.*  
*John Starr.*

1485.

*Robert Russell.*  
*Henry Hanneford.*  
*Philip Atwill.*  
*Matt. Allington.*  
*Nicholas Hamlyn.*

*Henry*, having ascended the throne, espoused the Princess *Elizabeth*, (the daughter of *Edward 4th.*) thereby uniting the claims of both the houses, whose pretensions had distracted the 1485.

Henry 7th.

\* Historians relate that, on *Richard's* asking the name of the castle, he was answered *Reugemour*, that this greatly terrified him, as he had been told by a Soothsayer, that his days would not be long after he had seen *Richmond*; mistaking the similarity of sound in the names: but 'tis likely this was invented after his death.

**CHAP. II.** the nation and deluged it with blood, for, almost, a century.

This year an unheard of disorder visited the nation, termed the *Sweating sickness*: it rapidly spread itself, and carried off multitudes, particularly in this city.

**A. D.** The Barber Surgeons were first incorporated, under the  
**1487.** common seal of the city.

Ale conners (or tasters) were appointed, to examine whether the beer brewed for sale, was good and wholesome.

**1488.** The King intending to send an army of 8000 men to the assistance of the Duke of *Bretagne* (then at war with the *French*) ordered his royal mandate to this city, for a supply of 200 Soldiers; who were accordingly levied, completely armed, and sent to *Portsmouth*, to join the forces there assembled.

The privileges annexed to cities and corporate towns, were now thought worthy the acceptance of the greatest Barons; accordingly we find that, this year, *Edward Courtenay*, Earl of *Devon*, was made free of this city. This is the first honorary freeman that appears upon record.

**1489.** A special commission came from the King, commanding the Mayor and Common council to make a general inspection of the arms and armour of the citizens; and thereupon, every inhabitant was ordered to furnish himself and family with sufficient arms; and a due report thereof was made to his majesty.

Weavers, & Fullers incorporated. The *Weavers* and *Fullers* were incorporated under the common seal of the city.

**1493.** This year the best wheat was sold in *Exeter* market for 6d. per bushel; which, according to the value of money at that period, answers to near 2s. 3d. of the present coinage.

Wheat sold for 6d. per Bushel. The *Cappers*, *Haberdashers*, and *Feltmakers* (Hatters) received a charter of incorporation under the common seal of the city.

**1495.** The town duties having been invaded, the Mayor and Common council caused the ancient usage of the city to be restored (according to their charters) and issued an order that every person not being free of the city, that should expose for sale any merchandize, wares, or other commodities, within the limits of the same, should pay a toll of one half-penny per day: this custom is still continued (but increased to a penny) called market dues; and collected by a person who farms the said tolls of the chamber.

**1496.** This year, great dissensions arose among the citizens concerning the election of a Mayor; when, (for preventing the same in future) it was ordered by the Mayor and Common council, that no election of a Mayor, or other officer should

Dissensions about electing a Mayor.

should be held good, unless the same was made according to the ancient usage and customs of the city; and that the Mayor, with the 24 members of the common council, should be the only electors. It was also ordered, that the Mayors, in future, should have their *scarlet gowns* lined with *sarcenet*: the Receivers to have gowns of *Crimson* in grain; and that every member of the Common council should wear a gown of *Violet* (or Murray colour) in grain.

CHAP. II.

Different robes to be worn by the Mayor, &c.

The King's avarice, and arbitrary measures (for procuring money) discontented his subjects, and made his reign a continued series of troubles and divisions, which encouraged the partisans of the house of *York* to set up several impostors; one of which, *Lambert Simnel*, the son of a Baker at *Oxford*, being a comely personage, and greatly resembling the young Earl of *Warwick*, son and heir to the late Duke of Clarence, (whom the King had shut up in the *Tower*) declared himself, by the insinuation of a crafty priest, named *Richard Simon*, to be the identical Earl of *Warwick*, escaped from his confinement, and the lawful heir of the house of *York*: this drew many to his standard: but *Simnel*, after various adventures, was defeated by the King's forces at *Stoke* near *Lincoln*, and made prisoner, together with the priest, his tutor: when (confessing their imposture) the King spared their lives; made *Simnel* one of his falconers; but imprisoned the Priest for life. †

Lambert Simnel's rebellion.

No sooner was this ended, than another of more consequence broke out in *Cornwall*; where the people, thinking themselves aggrieved by a new subsidy levied on them, assembled together in great numbers, under the lead of *Thomas Flammock*, a Lawyer, and *Michael Joseph*, a Blacksmith of *Bodmin*; and proceeding to open acts of violence, seized on the Provost of *Penryn* (one of the commissioners for collecting the said subsidy) and most barbarously murdered him: they then marched towards *Exeter*: but the citizens apprized of their intentions, put themselves in arms, barricaded the bridge and opposed their entrance. The rebels, thus opposed, altered their rout, and proceeded to *Tiverton*, and thence to *Taunton*, where they were joined by *Thomas Touchet*, Lord *Audley*, who took upon him the chief command, and marched them (without opposition) through *Wells*, *Salisbury*, and *Winchester*, and encamped on *Black-heath*, near *London*. The King assembled what forces he could, and a bloody conflict

A. D. 1497.

Another rebellion in Cornwall.

Rebels come to Exeter.

and are repulsed. Proceed to Tiverton.

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† Mr. Isaac in his Memorials, is mistaken when he places *Simnel's* rebellion after *Perkin Warbeck's*, it happened the year before; also, in his account of *Simnel's* besieging *Exeter*, as no such event ever took place; his rebellion being confined to the North of England.

## CHAP. II.

Defeated.

Perkin  
Warbeck  
pretends to  
be the Duke  
of York.

and lands  
in Cornwall.

Besieges  
Exeter.

conflict ensued, in which the *Cornish* men were defeated, after fighting with the greatest courage and obstinacy: their ringleaders were taken prisoners: Lord *Audley* (after being degraded from his dignity) was beheaded: and *Flammock* and *Joseph, the Blacksmith* were drawn, hanged and quartered, and their heads and quarters fixed on stakes, and set up in different places.

Before this commotion was well over, another *Pretender* appeared (this gave Henry more trouble than the former:) his name was *Perkin Warbeck*; (the son of a converted jew) he was born in *England*, spoke his native language well, and being of a comely personage, pretended to be *Richard Duke of York*, brother of King *Edward 5th*. and that he had escaped from the hands of his cruel uncle, *Richard*: Patronized and acknowledged as such by *Margaret, Dutches of Burgundy*, who still retained her family hatred to the house of *Lancaster*, he easily persuaded a number of idle and discontented people to espouse his cause: this was greatly contributed to by the Kings of *France* and *Scotland*, from envy to King *Henry*: the former, by his persuasions, and the latter by giving him in marriage the *Lady Catherine Gordon*, his own kinswoman.

*Warbeck* having by these means collected a great number of followers, attempted a descent in *Kent*: but being repulsed, with the loss of many of his men, he took refuge in *Ireland*. Here, being informed of those commotions in *Cornwall*, and understanding that the *Cornish* men, exasperated at their late defeat were ready to renew their rebellion, he mustered about four-score men, which, with his wife, he embarked on board four small ships, and landing in *Cornwall*, proceeded to *Bodmin*; where he so prevailed on the people by his fair speeches, and large promises, that upwards of 3000 soon joined his standard: thus reinforced, he, by the advice of his three principal counsellors, *John Heron*, a Bankrupt Mercer, *Richard Skelton*, a Taylor, and *John Astley*, a Scrivener, marched towards *Exeter*. His army having increased on its march to upwards of 6000, he sat down before the city, and summoned the citizens to surrender, commanding them to open their gates and admit him and his followers: this being refused, the rebels began a furious assault: but the citizens (fully prepared) gave them a warm reception, and repulsed them as often as they returned to the assault, opening their gates and discharging their *portpieces*, † charged with pieces of glass, old iron and musquet

† One of those port pieces was remaining (in the Author's memory,) and laid on the left side of the passage under the Eastgate: it was compo-

musquet balls, which made a great slaughter of the assailants. The rebels, finding no hopes of success, turned the siege into a blockade, thinking to compel the citizens to surrender by famine. The King being informed of their distress, sent *Lord Daubeny*, at the head of a body of forces, to attempt their relief; while he himself collected an army to follow them; but before *Daubeny's* arrival, *Edward Courtenay*, Earl of Devon, accompanied by *Lord William Courtenay*, (his Son) *Sir Edmund Carew*, *Sir Thomas Trenchard*, *Sir William Courtenay of Powderham*, *Sir Thomas Fulford*, *Sir John Hakewell*, *Sir John Crocker*, *Walter Courtenay*, *Peter Edgcombe*, *William Seymour Esquires*, with many other gentlemen, having collected their tenants, and what other forces they could, came to the citizens relief: on this, the rebels broke up their siege, and marched for *Taunton*; where *Warbeck* found his forces greatly diminished by desertion; and, on hearing of the King's approach towards him, he secretly left his army, and took sanctuary in the abbey of *Beaulieu* in *Hampshire*. The King, hearing of his escape, sent a body of troops in pursuit of him: to these he surrendered himself, on promise of having his life spared; and *Henry* then proceeded to *Exeter*, where hundreds of the rebels, made prisoners, had been sent. On his entrance into the city, he was received with great acclamations, and conducted to the Guildhall, where he thanked the citizens, in the most grateful manner, for their steadfast loyalty and bravery in defending the city committed to their charge; and he assured them of his constant readiness to promote their interest, and protect their privileges. He then (preceded by the clergy) went to the Treasurer's house, § (within the close) which had been prepared for his reception, and immediately gave orders for the speedy trial of the rebels, most of whom were found guilty, and sentenced to death; but the King ordered the ringleaders only to be executed, who were hanged and quartered upon *Southernhay*: the rest were brought before him, with halters round their necks; and, falling on their knees, they begged for mercy: the King be-

The siege raised.

Warbeck retires to Taunton.

Warbeck taken.

King comes to Exeter.

Ringleaders executed.

M 2

held

sed of flat iron bars, strongly hooped together with iron (similar to a Cask) and was near 12 feet in length, and 12 inches diameter at the mouth; (as far as memory can answer:) it did not seem to have been ever fixed on a carriage as it had no trunnions, but strong iron rings on the sides for the purpose of moving it from place to place; and probably when it was discharged, it was placed on a mount, or logs of wood laid for the purpose of elevating it: this curious relique of antiquity was sold for old iron, by a city Receiver, though of little value, being eat out with rust. There is a cannon of the same sort, still remaining in the armoury of the Tower of London.

§ This house was (very judiciously) taken down in 1798, to open a view of the eastern part of the Cathedral.

**CHAP. II.** held them from a *window*,† made for that purpose, in the front of the treasury house: he paused for a while; and then admonishing them, and exhorting them to future obedience, pardoned them all, to the great joy of the spectators, who joined the prisoners, in loud shouts of “Long live King *Henry the seventh.*”

The other rebels pardoned.

New charter to regulate the election of Mayors and other officers.

King Henry's charter.

Twenty-four common council men to be chosen.

Dissensions still continued among the citizens, concerning the right of electing the Mayor and other officers; and two rolls of the city records, containing the ancient customs and usages by which the said elections were governed, being either lost or embezzled, an information was laid before the King, who ordered the Mayor and common council into his presence, and, in order to prevent future contentions, caused the following regulations to be made, and confirmed them, under his royal sign manual, by the following charter.

“HENRY, by the Grace of God, King of *England*, and of *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*. To all, and every of our subjects, to whom shall appertain these our Letters, hearing or seeing, greeting.”

“Whereas, in divers times past, great inconveniencies, strifes, and debates, have been had, and made within this our city of *Exeter*, for the election of a Mayor, four Bailiffs, four-and-twenty of the common council, and four Sergeants at Mace of the same, as by the grievous complaints of the citizens and inhabitants, of our said City, unto us thereupon made, more plainly it hath been declared. And for a peaceable election of and upon the premises, hereafter to be used, and had within our said city. We, of our special grace, tender love, and zeal, which we have, and bear to our said city; and for the redress, restfulness, and common weal of the same, by the assent and consent, of the common council of our said city, and other staid and discreet citizens of the same. Have ordered, provided, and established, that from henceforth, there shall be *Four-and-Twenty* of the most sufficient and discreet citizens and inhabitants of the same, of the common council, for the term of their lives, and none to be removed, except it be for poverty, disease, great age or other cause reasonable, which causes shall be adjudged and determined by the said *Four-and-twenty*, or by the greater part of them, and after the decease of any of the *Four-and-twenty*, or the removal of them (as is before rehearsed) that then the residue of the said *Four-and-twenty*, shall elect and choose unto them, another citizen most sufficient and an inhabitant of our said city

† This window was evidently of a more modern date than the body of the building.

“ city to fulfil the the whole number of the said *Four-and-* CHAP. II.  
 “ *twenty*, according as the custom is of the four-and-twenty  
 “ aldermen, within our city of *London*, the names of the said Mode of e-  
 “ *Four-and-twenty* of the common council, now named be- lection of  
 “ fore us in a schedule hereunto annexed. Also, we Will, Mayor by  
 “ that the Monday next before the feast of *St. Michael*, the the 24 com-  
 “ *Archangel*, yearly hereafter, the Mayor of our said city of mon coun-  
 “ *Exeter*, for the time being, with his brethren and commons cil men.  
 “ of our said city, that then shall be franchised men, shall  
 “ assemble themselves in the *Guildhall* of our said city, and  
 “ then and there, the *Four-and-twenty*, or the more part of  
 “ them, upon their oaths, by privy scrutiny, and by the re-  
 “ port of the *Recorder*, and *Town clerk* for the time being, up- To return  
 “ on their oaths, shall elect and choose *Two* of the most able two to the  
 “ citizens of the said *Four-and-twenty*, for a *Mayor* of our said Freemen.  
 “ city, for the year then next ensuing, who hath been appro-  
 “ ved before in the office of a *Mayor*, or else of a *Receiver*.  
 “ (The *Mayor* then for the time being, always to be excepted  
 “ from being elected one of the two persons so before named,  
 “ as is before rehearsed.) Also We will that the said *Four-*  
 “ *and-twenty*, at the same time shall elect and choose *Four* Receiver  
 “ *Bailiffs*, whereof one shall be *Receiver*, and that as well of and Bailiffs.  
 “ the *Four-and-twenty*, as of other the most able citizens, and  
 “ inhabitants of our said city, so that they be franchised men,  
 “ and of good name and fame. Also We will, that the same  
 “ day the said *Four-and-twenty* shall elect and choose *Three* And three  
 “ *Sergeants*, franchised men of our said city, who best can, Sergeants.  
 “ and best may attend and execute their office, after their dis-  
 “ cretion. And after the election so made, and had, then  
 “ the said *Recorder*, and *Town clerk*, or one of them, shall  
 “ publish and shew to the said *Four-and-twenty*, which *Two*  
 “ of them for the election of a *Mayor* hath most voices, and  
 “ to shew their names to the *Commons*, that be franchised men,  
 “ and they to choose one of them to be *Mayor* of our said city  
 “ for the year then next ensuing, and he that shall so fortune  
 “ to have most voices of franchised men, to be accepted and  
 “ admitted for to be *Mayor*; and after this done, the said  
 “ *Recorder* and *Town clerk*, or one of them, to present and  
 “ shew the names of all the other *Officers*, so elected and cho-  
 “ sen, unto the said *Commons*, in the presence of the said  
 “ *Four-and-twenty*. Also We will, that the Monday next  
 “ ensuing the said election, the said citizens, so elected to be  
 “ *Mayor*, and all other *Officers*, in the open court at the  
 “ *Guildhall*, shall be sworn, and take their oaths, according  
 “ to the old usages and laudable customs of our said city; and  
 “ after that, the same *Mayor* so sworn shall choose an able  
 “ citizen,

The Mayor  
 to appoint  
 the fourth  
 Sergeant.



**CHAP. II.** "citizen, and franchised man, to be the *Fourth Sergeant* of our said city, which Sergeant, before this time, hath been used to be chosen, and named only by the *Mayor*, and none other, according to the old customs of our said city. Also, that none of the said *Four-and-twenty*, nor other Officer of our said city, use or wear any *Lord's* clothing, nor Gentleman's livery, nor bear cognizance from henceforth, upon pain of being deprived of their office, and losing their franchises. Also, We will that what person or persons, of what estate, degree, or condition whatever he or they be, presume or contend the breach of this our direction, and provision for the election, and other premises, as are before rehearsed: that he, or they, so offending, shall forfeit unto the use of our said city, *Ten Marks*, and over that stand in our high displeasure. Given under our priory seal at our Manor of Greenwich, the 10th day of July, in the Thirteenth year of our reign."\*

None of the city officers to wear any livery or badge.

The King presents the Mayor with his own Sword, &c. Sword bearer appointed.

A. D. 1501.  
Princess Catharine of Spain, arrives in this city.

1503.  
A great pestilence.

To confirm this charter, the King appointed: *William Frost* (sometime one of his Servants and one of the four bailiffs of the city the preceding year) to be *Mayor*, and to testify the great regard and esteem he had for the citizens, in return for their loyalty in bravely defending the city during the late rebellion, he took his sword from his side, which, with a rich *Cap of maintenance*, he presented to the new *Mayor*, commanding them to be worn, and carried before him and his successors, on all public occasions: a sword bearer was accordingly appointed, the first of whom was *Francis Gilbert, Esq.*

The Princess *Catharine* of *Spain*, espoused to the King's eldest son, *Arthur*, Prince of *Wales*, arriving at *Plymouth*, was conducted by the principal gentry of the county to this city, where she was received with the greatest honor and respect. Her residence was at the house of the *Dean*: during her stay, the weather proving stormy, and the weather cock of *St. Mary Major's* steeple (contiguous to her lodgings) making so great a noise, from the violence of the wind, as to prevent her from taking her rest, she complained of it; and, in consequence, the cock was took down; but was replaced after her departure. She rested here several days: then, by short journeys, she proceeded to *London*, and thence into *Wales*, where she was married to the Prince.

A dreadful pestilence ravaged the kingdom; and made great havoc in this city, carrying off numbers of the inhabitants; among which were *Robert Newton* and *John Danester*, successively

\* This mode of election of the city officers, has been ever since duly employed, and continues to the present time.

successively *Mayors*: *John Guscott* and *John Nordon*, two CHAP. II.  
of the *Bailiffs*.

This great calamity carried off also whole families of the city; many of whom being freeholders, or who held their lands of the Mayor, Bailiffs and commonalty, as chief Lords by soccage tenure, great disputes arose among the claimants of the said lands (as heirs of the deceased) and therefore an inquisition was held; and the disputes were settled before the Magistrates: when, an ancient custom of this city was again put in force: viz. that every Freeholder is bound to pay for his relief, 2s. 6d.

A. D.  
1504.

King *Henry* died of the gout, at his Palace of *Richmond*, in 1508.  
*Serry*; and was succeeded by his only surviving son, *Henry*. *Henry* dies.

### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of HENRY VII.

1486.	<i>Wymond Austin</i> .	<i>John Bonnefant</i> .
<i>Thomas Calwoodley</i> .	<i>John Welch</i> .	<i>Philip Bullock</i> .
<i>Thomas Bond</i> .	1491.	<i>John Wilkin</i> .
<i>George Chapman</i> .	<i>Robert Chubb</i> .	<i>Nicholas Aburn</i> .
<i>Wal. Champnys</i> .	<i>Nicholas Hamlyn</i> .	1496.
<i>John Bonnefant</i> .	<i>Robert Bonnefant</i> .	<i>John Atwill</i> .
1487.	<i>William Nordon</i> .	<i>Walter York</i> .
<i>Robert Newton</i> .	<i>John Guscott</i> .	<i>William Frost</i> .
<i>John Hooker</i> .	1492.	<i>Tho. Langworthy</i> .
<i>Henry Faux</i> .	<i>John Atwill</i> .	<i>William Binks</i> .
<i>Richard Turner</i> .	<i>Wal. Champnys</i> .	1497.
<i>Wm. Baker</i> .	<i>John Winter</i> .	<i>William Frost</i> .
1488.	<i>Ralph Pudesly</i> .	<i>John Danester</i> .
<i>Richard Clarke</i> .	<i>Richard Cliff</i> .	<i>Richard Hewett</i> .
<i>George Chapman</i> .	1493.	<i>John Buckenam</i> .
<i>John Rudgway</i> .	<i>John Coleshill</i> .	<i>Wm. Wilkinson</i> .
<i>John Ector</i> .	<i>Richard Undy</i> .	1498.
<i>Wm. Eastcott</i> .	<i>John Danester</i> .	<i>Richard Undy</i> .
1489.	<i>Richard Nordon</i> .	<i>John Hull</i> .
<i>Stephen Rudgway</i> .	<i>John Merrifield</i> .	<i>John Vigiures</i> .
<i>Matt. Allington</i> .	1494.	<i>John Brendon</i> .
<i>Robert Bonnefant</i> .	<i>William Obleigh</i> .	<i>Wm. Cleyhanger</i> .
<i>Walter York</i> .	<i>John Slugg</i> .	1499.
<i>Simon Davy</i> .	<i>Thomas Andrew</i> .	<i>Nicholas Hamlyn</i> .
1490.	<i>John Hull</i> .	<i>John Symons</i> .
<i>John Hooker</i> .	<i>Thomas Oliver</i> .	<i>John Scrivener</i> .
<i>John Calwoodley</i> .	1495.	<i>John Wills</i> .
<i>Richard Undy</i> .	<i>John Calwoodley</i> .	<i>Robert</i>

CHAP. II. Robert Bonenfant.

1503.

1506.

1500.

*Walter York.*  
*Thomas Andrew.*  
*Jeffery Lewes.*  
*John Bowyer.*  
*Robert Sheerman.*

1501.

*John Calwoodley.*  
*William Crudge.*  
*William Peck.*  
*Thomas Oliver.*  
*John Whitwever.*

1502.

*Walter Champnys.*  
*Richard Hewett.*  
*John Nosworthy.*  
*Jervais Lushant.*  
*Thomas Hill.*

*Robert Newton, Ob.*  
*John Danester, Ob.*  
*William Frost.*  
*John Guscott, Ob.*  
*John Limpenny.*  
*John Thomas.*  
*John Nordon, Ob.*  
*John Wilkins.*

1504.

*Thomas Andrew.*  
*John Gumby.*  
*Peter Coleshill.*  
*John Thomas.*  
*John Beadmore.*

1505.

*William Crudge.*  
*John Bonenfant.*  
*William Shaxton.*  
*John Scott.*  
*John Hoig.*

*Richard Hewett.*  
*John Limpenny.*  
*John Orenge.*  
*Richard Duke.*  
*Reyneld Russel.*

1507.

*John Calwoodley.*  
*John Buckenham.*  
*Matthew Moore.*  
*Vincent Scott.*  
*Reynold Russell.*

1508.

*John Limpenny.*  
*William Wilsford.*  
*William Bonnet.*  
*John Kever.*  
*William Hunting-*  
*ton, Ob.*  
*William Matthew.*

A. D.  
 1509.

Henry 8th.

*Henry*, the eighth, as soon as he ascended the throne, was (according to his late father's will) married to the Princess *Catharine*, the widow of his brother *Arthur*; and, with his Queen, was crowned at Westminster, on Midsummer day 1509.

1511.  
 Goods seized for non-payment of town duties

Several merchants having imported goods into the port of *Exeter*, and refusing payment of the petty customs (or town dues) the said goods were seized as forfeited, until composition was made for the same.

1512.

The King demands 30 Soldiers.

This year war was declared against the *French King*, and proclaimed in this city; and an invasion being intended by *France*, the King sent his orders to the *Mayor* to provide thirty soldiers to attend him in the said expedition: these were accordingly levied and completely armed, by the voluntary contributions of the citizens.

1513.

Sir *Thomas Dennis*, Knight, † a gentleman of an ancient and respectable family, much esteemed for his knowledge in the laws, was chosen *Recorder of Exeter*. The

† This Gentleman, it is said, lived in the reigns of seven Kings and Queens of this kingdom: he was domestic servant to Henry 7th, one of the Privy council to Henry 8th, Chancellor to Queen Anne of Cleves: Custos rotulorum of the county of Devon, and seven times Sheriff of the said county: once, two years together (contrary to law,) for which he was fined £200.

The right of demanding *Dominicals* (in lieu of *Tythes*) by the parish priest of this city, being disputed, and several of the inhabitants refusing to pay the same, the cause was tried in the King's court in the Guildhall, and judgment given in favour of the Priests: it doth not appear what sum was demanded; but the following composition (in lieu of tythes) was appointed by an act of parliament, in the year 1457.

CHAP. II.

A. D.  
1515.Dominicals  
refused.

" *The composition of all offering, within the city of London and suburbs of the same.*"

Composi-  
tions for of-  
ferings.

" *First, that every person, dweller, and inhabitant in any house and occupieth the same at 10s. per ann. shall offer to God, and to the church in whose parish such house standeth, one farthing, on each of the feast days hereafter mentioned: viz. on every Sunday in the year, Christmas day, Circumcision, Epiphany, Purification of our Lady, Ascension of our Lord, Corpus Christi, St. Matthew, St. Simon and St. Jude, All Saints, St. Andrew, Conception of the Blessed Virgin, St. Thomas Apostle, St. Peter, and Paul, St. James and St. Bartholomew, Assumption and Nativity of our Lady, Dedication day to be kept for all the churches: and also on the Patron's day of each church. And if such inhabited houses be lett for 20s. to pay two farthings, or half-penny; if for 30s. to pay three farthings: if for 40s. to pay one penny; if for 50s. to pay one penny farthing; and so for every sum, ascending and descending by 10s. into what sum soever, shall always offer one farthing after the rate of 10s. at the aforesaid feasts. And he who rents houses in divers parishes shall pay or offer, the same, for each house, to the church in which parish it stands: provided that it should happen that two of the said feasts, fall on one day, the offering shall be only for one day. That a house rented at 6s. 8d. shall offer only four times in the year, on the four principal feasts of the church of which he is a parishioner; and all above 6s. 8d. and under 10s. to pay one penny farthing once a year. Provided always that if the said dweller go before the Curate, and there declare upon his faith and truth, that he may not pay his said money according to the ordinance aforesaid, be within 10s. that the said Curate shall holden him, aught or nought, and the dweller, thereupon shall be quyte: and if the rent of the house exceed 10s. and does not amount to 30s. and so to any sum being between 10s. and 30s. the inhabitant shall pay to the Curate five farthings for every shilling of the said sum that shall be between ten, and ten. Where a house is taken together, and afterwards*

N

" let

**CHAP. II.** " let out into apartments for divers people, then the person  
 " that took the whole house, and inhabiteth the principal  
 " part thereof, shall pay an offering to his parish church for  
 " the whole rent, if the said house be inhabited and occupi-  
 " ed as dwelling places. But if the person who rents the  
 " whole house, does not dwell in part thereof, and lets it out  
 " again, then he that dwelleth in the principal part shall of-  
 " fer *all*, and the rest four-pence by the year. Also every  
 " warehouse, shop, cellar, wharf, stable, crane, ground,  
 " garden or place, shall pay for every Pound they are let for  
 " six-pence offering, to the Curate of the church in which  
 " they shall stand, without any other offering; and three-  
 " pence for 10s. per ann. rent, and more or less, as they  
 " shall be lett for more or less than 10s. per ann. It was also  
 " provided that all apprentices, and servants and hired men,  
 " not charged with such rent and houses, which shall be  
 " householder at *Easter*, or about *Easter*, shall four times  
 " in the year, at the four principal feasts, offer to God and  
 " the church. Also as for personal tythes the parishioners  
 " are neither charged or discharged, saving that hereafter  
 " no Curate shall vex, trouble, sue, or deny sacraments or  
 " service, for nonpayment of the same, but leave them to  
 " the piety and conscience of the parishioners. Also all  
 " proceedings and suits hitherto carried on, for tythes or of-  
 " ferings, before this day, shall stop, and never be brought  
 " into controversy any more; but all such things done be-  
 " fore this day, shall be remitted and forgiven by both par-  
 " ties."

A. D.  
1515.

A great  
frost.

This year was remarkable for an intense frost which continued its severity for more than seven weeks; many were frozen to death; others lost their fingers or their toes, and the poor were reduced to the greatest distress.

1517.

Receiver,  
&c. refuse  
to make  
public  
breakfasts,  
&c.

An ancient custom had prevailed in this city, for the Receiver and Bailiffs, on the day of election of a new Mayor, to make public breakfasts and dinners, which was attended with great expences; and many by endeavouring to outvie others in the splendour of their entertainments had greatly injured their fortunes: therefore the Receiver for this year, *Richard Duke*, and the bailiffs, taking it into consideration, resolved to discontinue the custom, and refused to make any entertainments; for which they were fined in the sum of 40s. each: the year following, the Bailiffs (wisely judging it better to pay 40s. than spend 20l. for a breakfast) also refused to make the customary entertainments: but afterwards many complied.

are fined  
40s. each.

1520.

And order of common council was made, that all free-  
men

men should reside within the limits of the city, on pain of **CHAP. II**  
disfranchisement.

The Mayor this year (*John Neworthy*) was a great benefactor to the city, by reforming many abuses, and establishing good order in the courts of justice: he ordered the attorneys of the provost court to be sworn to act justly and impartially in the cause of their clients: the records of the city laying scattered, (by which many of them were lost, or otherwise embezzled) he collected them together; and, for their better security erected convenient presses in the Council chamber: he regulated the duties of the city officers, and saw them duly observed: during a scarcity of corn, he caused to be imported a large quantity from different parts, and sold it to the poor, at reduced prices: he also regulated the markets, particularly that of corn, ordering that it should be open certain hours only; and for this purpose, he erected a bell, which was to be rung at the beginning and close of the market, and to be tolled about the middle, thereby to give notice that, the citizens being supplied, strangers were at liberty to purchase. He was also careful to see the assize of bread and ale well kept, and behaved with the greatest hospitality, leaving an excellent pattern to succeeding magistrates.

One *Joan Luter*, a common strumpet, having been frequently admonished concerning her debauched life and conversation, and not reforming the same, the Mayor went, in person, to her house, brought her thence and committed her to prison, that she might receive due punishment according to her offences: this coming to the knowledge of her cullies and companions, they used all possible means to prevent it; but finding they could not prevail, they attempted to rescue the prisoner, when, to counteract them, and to defend the Mayor, *William Somaster*, then *Sword bearer*, attending his Master, in the High-street, was obliged to draw his sword; by which he put the assailants to flight: the woman was sent to the house of correction, and afterwards publicly whipped at the cart's tail.

Several writs of *Ne Molestando* were sent to *Bristol*, to discharge the duty of Town custom pretended to be due from the freemen of this city, from the payment of which they are exempted by their charters.

*Henry*, tired of his Queen, *Catharine*, who had been his wife eighteen years, and borne him three children, pretended scruples of conscience as to the legality of his marriage, she being his brother's widow when he married her; he sent ambassadors to *Rome*, desiring a divorce: this being refused, he, in revenge, separated himself and his subjects from any

N 2

dependence

A. D.  
1521.The mayor  
regulates  
the courts  
of justice,  
collects the  
City re-  
cords,imports  
corn in time  
of scarcity,  
and regu-  
lates the  
markets.

1524.

The Sword  
bearer draws  
his sword  
in defence  
of the May-  
or.

1529.

The King  
breaks from  
the papal  
See,

- CHAP. II. dependence on the *Pope*; and, the next year, all applications to, and correspondence with the *Papal* court, were forbid by an act of parliament, under severe penalties; and the King was declared supreme head of the *English church*. Notwithstanding this separation from the *Pope*, *Henry* strongly adhered to the principles of the *Romish* faith, and persecuted the Protestants with unremitting severity, many of whom he caused to be executed with the most excruciating tortures: among these was *Thomas Bennet*, a native of *Cambridge*, and Master of Arts, in that university: he being an intimate acquaintance of that famous martyr, *Thomas Bilney*, was suspected of heresy (as the protestant religion was then called;) and finding his stay in his own country unsafe, he came into *Devonshire*, and taught a school, for some time, at *Torrington*: but not meeting with an encouragement there, he removed to *Exeter*, and there taught a small school in the *Butchers'-row*, and lived quietly till at length no longer able to bear with the superstition of the *Romish* priests, he fixed up written bills on the doors of the cathedral, in which he declared the *Pope* to be antichrist, and that no adoration was due to Saints; being suspected of this, he was apprehended and brought before the Bishop, when he publicly confessed the writing to be his, and the doctrines therein to be the truth, according to the Holy scriptures. After several examinations, refusing to recant, he was delivered over to the civil power for execution.
- comes to Exeter, is apprehended, refuses to recant.
- The Chamber will not suffer his being executed on Southernhay, is burnt at Livery-dole
- Sir Thomas Dennis* Knight then Sheriff of *Devon*, ordered a stake to be fixed for that purpose at *Southernhay*, which being in the limits of the city, the chamber would not permit, but ordered the stake to be taken up again. The Sheriff therefore had it removed to *Livery-dole*, in the parish of *Heavitree*, where *Bennet* was accordingly burnt, who bore his sufferings with patience and resignation that greatly affected the spectators.
- W. Strode, Esq. imprisoned for heresy.
- William Strode Esq.* of *Newenham* in the county of *Devon* was, at the same time, imprisoned in the Bishop's house, upon suspicion of heresy, where he suffered great hardships; he survived *Mr. Bennett*; but how he was afterwards dealt with, we have no account: it is supposed he died in prison.
1535. This year, an act of parliament threw off all dependence on the *Papal See*, and fully ended the power of the *Pope* in *England*.
1536. The Plague again visited this city, and made great ravages among the inhabitants.
- The King renewed the ancient charter of this city; and by his Letters patent under the great seal of *England*, constituted

stituted it a county of itself; independent of the county of **CHAP. II.**  
*Devon*; (of which it had hitherto been a part) fixing its limits, † and granting a liberty to the Mayor and Common **Exeter**  
 council to elect a Sheriff annually, with all the privileges **made a**  
 common to other counties: this charter is dated Aug. 3d, **County of**  
 1536. § **itself.**

The King not thinking himself secure from the attacks of **The King**  
 the See of *Rome*, as the country swarmed with Monks, **suppresses**  
 Friars and other mendicants, determined on a general sup- **all the mo-**  
 pression of the Monasteries within his dominions: this he **nasteries.**  
 soon put into execution; and in this, and the following reign  
 were suppressed 653: also 90 Colleges, 2,374 Chantryes and  
 free chapels; and 110 hospitals: the worth of these, before  
 their suppression, was valued at 152,517*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* but it is  
 computed that the lands and revenues belonging to them,  
 would now amount to 30,503,400*l.*

The houses suppressed in this city and neighbourhood, **Priory of St.**  
 were the following: The Priory of *St. Nicholas* (of which **Nicholas.**  
 there are still some remains) this was valued at 147*l.* 12*s.*  
 per annum, according to *Dugdale*: but Mr Speed says 154*l.*  
 12*s.*

The Priory of *St. John Baptist*, which *Speed* says was for **Priory of**  
*Franciscan Friars*: *Dugdale*, that it was an hospital for 5 **St. John**  
 Priests, 9 boys, and 12 poor people, this (according to *Speed*) **Baptist.**  
 was valued at 102*l.* 12*s.*; and the hospital at 147*l.* 12*s.* \*

The Priory of *Polsloe*, half-a-mile from the city, founded **Priory of**  
 by Bishop *Brewer* (who gave it the manor of *Polsloe*) for **Polsloe.**  
 *Benedictine Nuns*: it was dedicated to *St. Catherine*; and valu-  
 ed at 72*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* according to *Riesdon*: and by *Speed* at  
 170*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*

The Priory of *St. James* (now called the old Abbey) on the **Priory of St.**  
 banks of the river, near *Exeter*, founded by *Baldwin*, Earl **James.**  
 of *Devon*, for *Cluniac Monks*, valued at 552*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* per  
 Annum.

The Priory of *Cowick* near *Exeter*, not valued.

**Priory of**  
**Cowick.**

The Priory of *Franciscan*, or *Grey friars*, without the  
*Southgate*: the Priory of preaching friars, called the *Black*  
*friars*, (a cell to the Abbey of *Tavistock*, and now *Bedford*  
*Circus*

† As this charter is mostly recapitulated in that granted by *Charles the first*, it is unnecessary to insert it here: therefore refer to that period.

§ It is remarkable that most of the stones erected to determine the limits of the city are either grave stones, or the remains of religious houses.

\* Of this hospital more will be said in its proper place; also a particular account of the remains of the religious houses, in the descriptive part.



**CHAP. II.** Circus; and a Priory of *Cistercians*, (a cell to the Abbey of *Buckland*,) situated in *Southgate-street* (now the *Bear Inn*,) with many chapels and small chantries, were surrendered up, and fell in this general dissolution.

A. D.  
1537.

The King  
demands  
200 men to  
be sent a-  
gainst the  
Yorkshire  
rebels.

A great pre-  
servation  
from drown-  
ing.

The monks, thus expelled from their comfortable habita-  
tions, excited the people to insurrections, particularly in  
*Yorkshire*; on which the King sent his commission to *Henry  
Courtenay*, Marquis of *Essex*, to assemble the forces of the  
county of *Devon*, with an order to the Mayor of *Essex*, to  
assist him with 200 men, well armed: these were speedily  
raised, and mustered at *Bradwinch*, (with the rest of the Mar-  
quis's men) whence they marched, under his command, to  
*Doncaster*, where the rebels laid down their arms; and they  
dispersing themselves, the Marquis returned with his forces.

*John Cove*, who had attended the Marquis in this expedi-  
tion met with a remarkable circumstance on the night of his  
return home: part of his house, which was situated near the  
river, (at that time swelled by excessive rains) fell down;  
and the servants who slept in the upper part, were drowned;  
but he, and his wife were carried away, bed and all, by the  
current; when, desiring his wife not to stir, he, by exerting  
his arms and legs, kept on the western bank, out of the stream's  
current, and providentially got upon a hillock, where the  
water was shallow; and thence, he and his wife recovered  
the shore in safety.

1538.

The woollen manufactory greatly increasing in this city,  
the Mayor considered it necessary to erect a market for the  
sale of Wool, Yarn, and Kersies; this he proposed but was  
strongly opposed by some of the citizens, and the inhabitants  
of *Crediton*, where the only market for these commodities was  
held, in the county of *Devon*; notwithstanding this, the  
Mayor prevailed, and a market was accordingly established,  
to the great advantage of the citizens. †

Market for  
Wool, &c.  
erected.

John Bon-  
nefant exe-  
cuted on  
Southern-  
hay.

*John Bonnefant*, one of the Attornies of the Provost court  
in *Exeter* was found guilty of high treason, and condemned  
to be drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, and there  
to be hanged and quartered, which sentence was accordingly  
executed on him 10th of August, this year, on *Southernhay*.

1539.

Part of Exe-  
bridge falls  
down.

The high waters having greatly damaged the foundation of  
*Exebridge*, one of the middle arches fell down; which was  
immediately repaired by order of the Bridge warden: the  
stones made use of on this occasion, were those of the church  
of the late dissolved priory of *St. Nicholas* (which had been  
previously

† This market was erected over the old shambles in *Southgate-street*; and was of late taken down to widen the passage; and a conduit built on part of the scite.

previously purchased by the *Chamber*; and were not only applied to this purpose, but also to the repairs of the city walls. CHAP. II.

The trade of *Exeter* having most considerably increased by the introduction of the *woollen* manufactory, the citizens and merchants found a great inconvenience in bringing their heavy goods by land, from *Topsam*; they therefore applied to Government for a relief; and an act was passed, empowering the *Chamber* to remove the weirs and other obstructions in the ancient course of the river; but, from a survey made, it was found wholly impracticable, as the materials were so strongly united together by length of time as to render all proceedings ineffectual. Another act was therefore procured to enable the city to cut a canal through the marshes, and, to erect sluices, and draw-bridges thereon; and, to defray the expences of the work, to collect certain duties on all goods, and merchandizes that should be brought up to the city, through the said canal: the work was carried on with great assiduity, by voluntary contributions; the parishes granting part of their superfluous church plate, amounting to upwards of 900 ounces, (part of which being gilt increased its value;) the neighbouring clergy and gentry also contributed largely, so that in the course of a few years, barges and boats of great size, came easily up and discharged their cargoes at a spacious quay erected by the chamber.

An act granted for making the river navigable to the city,

Church plate granted towards the work.

1544.

Part of *Cowley bridge* fell down, and was repaired by the city: the city walls being decayed, and the ditches almost filled up, the walls were repaired and the ditches cleansed at the free expence of the citizens.

1545.

*Henry* died on the 28th January, 1547, and was succeeded by his only son, *Edward*, then only nine years of age.

1547.

### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of HENRY VIII.

1509.	1511.	Richard Russel.
<i>John Buckenham.</i>	<i>Will. Wilsford, Ob.</i>	1513.
John Bradmore.	<i>William Crudge.</i>	<i>Richard Hewett.</i>
William Somaster.	Robert Browne.	John Winter.
John Coleshill.	Robert Kensey.	John Bodley.
William Hoig.	John Boughay.	William Ratcliff.
1510.	Henry Hamlyn.	John Robins.
<i>Thomas Andrew.</i>	1512.	1514.
John Oreng.	<i>Richard Symons.</i>	<i>John Moore.</i>
John Moore.	John Moore.	Thomas Hunt.
John Amory.	John Britnall.	William Forrest.
William Periam.	William Hurst.	Robert Buller.

John

CHAP. II. John Williams.

1515.

*William Crudge.*  
*Jeffery Lewis.*  
*John Bridgman.*  
*Gilbert Kirk.*  
*Thomas Fowler.*

1516.

*John Buckenham.*  
*John Nosworthy.*  
*John Woolcot.*  
*Richard Chubb.*  
*Robert Trow.*

1517.

*Thomas Hunt.*  
*Richard Duke.*  
*Nic. Staplehill, Ob.*  
*John Richards, Ob.*  
*Matthew Long.*  
*Hugh Page.*  
*William Cotton.*

1518.

*William Crudge.*  
*Reynold Russel.*  
*John Maris.*  
*Nigel Collin.*  
*John Mitchell.*

1519.

*Jeffery Lewis.*  
*William Shapton.*  
*Richard Martin.*  
*John Awells.*  
*Richard Andrew.*

1520.

*John Broadmere.*  
*Richard Russel.*  
*Richard Verney.*  
*John Harris.*  
*John Blackaller.*

1521.

*John Nosworthy.*

*William Bennet.*  
*Chris. Lambert.*  
*Thomas Hunt.*  
*John Buller.*

1522.

*Richard Duke.*  
*William Hurst.*  
*Robert Hooker.*  
*John Way.*  
*Robert Smith.*

1523.

*John Symons, Ob.*  
*Thomas Hunt.*  
*John Britnall.*  
*Richard Faux.*  
*Roger Luxton.*  
*John Holmer.*

1524.

*William Hurst.*  
*Henry Hamlyn.*  
*Will. Buckenham.*  
*John Woolcott.*  
*William Davy.*

1525.

*William Bennet.*  
*Robert Buller.*  
*John Winter.*  
*William Holmer.*  
*John Tuckfield.*

1526.

*Henry Hamlyn.*  
*Robert Hooker.*  
*Nicholas Lynnett.*  
*John Trubody.*  
*William Hussey.*

1527.

*John Britnall.*  
*Wm. Blackaller.*  
*John Cross.*  
*John Seller.*  
*John Duck.*

1528.

*Robert Buller.*  
*Gilbert Kirk.*  
*John Maynard.*  
*Wm. Tothill.*  
*Robert Whitread.*

1529.

*Robert Hooker.*  
*William Periam.*  
*Thomas Sparway.*  
*Robert Turner.*  
*Robert Tooker.*

1530.

*John Blackaller.*  
*Richard Martin.*  
*Thos. Prestwood.*  
*Richard Mawditt.*  
*Stephen Larimore.*

1531.

*Gilbert Kirk.*  
*Hugh Page.*  
*Thos. Bonnefant.*  
*William Chanon.*  
*Edward Sheer.*

1532.

*William Periam.*  
*Thomas Hoig.*  
*John Tuckfield.*  
*Roger Blackall.*  
*William Takle.*

1533.

*Richard Martin.*  
*John Thomas.*  
*Hum. Andrew.*  
*Richard Ratcliff.*  
*William Burges.*

1534.

*John Britnall.*  
*Thomas Hunt.*  
*Richard Colwell.*  
*John Rixley.*  
*John Shelder.*

1535.

1535.	Thos. Prestwood.	Wm. Downtman.
<i>William Hurst.</i>	Griffith Ameredith.	1544.
Thomas Spurway.	Morris Levermore.	<i>Thomas Prestwood.</i>
Bennet Chubb.	William Lott.	John Maynard.
John Lane.	1540.	John Webb.
Nicholas Walrond.	<i>Thomas Spurway.</i>	William Halse.
1536.	John Midwinter.	Hugh Pope.
<i>John Blackaller.</i>	Richard Sweet.	1445.
John Buller.	Robert Cotton.	<i>William Hurst.</i>
Wm. Burgoyne.	John Thomas.	Nicholas Lymett.
Peter Stretch.	1541.	Robert Midwinter.
John Alleyne.	<i>Wm. Buckenham.</i>	Henry Booth.
1537.	John Way.	John Berry.
<i>Thomas Hunt.</i>	John Peryam.	1546.
Wm. Buckenham.	John Macy.	<i>John Britnall.</i>
William Smith.	Robert Sweet.	John Tuckfield.
John Peter.	1542.	John Stowell.
Wm. Berryman.	<i>John Buller.</i>	Edward Bridgman.
1538.	John Woolcott.	Thomas Grigg.
<i>Henry Hamlyn.</i>	John Drake.	1547.
Robert Tooker.	Christopher Potter.	<i>John Midwinter.</i>
Nicholas Reeve.	Richard Limbear.	John Drake.
John Paramore.	1543.	Thomas Skidmore.
J. Mountstephen.	<i>Robert Tooker.</i>	John Bodley.
1539.	John Holmer.	John Blackall.
<i>Gilbert Kirk.</i>	John Hurst.	
	William Parsons.	

Earls

O.

## CHAP. II.

*Earls of Devon from the Norman Conquest,  
to the Reformation.*

- Baldwin de Brioniis.** *Baldwin de Brioniis* (or *de Molis*) great grandson to *Richard* the first, Duke of *Normandy*, having married *Albreda*, niece to *William* the Conqueror, was, by that King made hereditary Viscount of *Devon*: he likewise granted to him the castle of *Exeter*, for his residence.
- Richard de Brioniis.** *Baldwin* was succeeded by his son, *Richard*, (to whom the Conqueror granted the barony of *Okehampton*) but he dying without issue, *Henry* the first, made
- Richard de Rivers.** *Richard de Rivanis* (or *Rivers*) Baron of *Tiverton* and *Plympton*, and then, Earl of *Devon*; granting him the third penny of all the revenues of the county, which did not then exceed 30 marks. He was also made Lord of the isle of *Wight* by the same King; his heir and successor was
- Baldwin de Rivers.** *Baldwin de Rivers*, who founded the monasteries of *Brummore*, in *Wiltshire*; *Quarrera*, in the isle of *Wight*; and *Lira*, in *Normandy*; he sided with the Empress *Maud* against King *Stephen*, who took from him the castle of *Exeter*, and the isle of *Wight*, seized on all his possessions, and forced him to depart out of the kingdom: but being restored by *Henry* the second, was succeeded by his eldest son,
- Richard de Rivers.** *Richard de Rivers*, who gave lands to the Abbey of *Quarrera*, to pray for the souls of his father and mother; and also confirmed his father's gifts to the Abbey of *Twineham*: his successor was,
- Baldwin 2d. de Rivers.** *Baldwin*, his eldest son, who behaving himself valiantly in the wars against the Welch, King *Henry* the second granted him, as a reward, the honor of *Charleaux*: he married the heiress of *Ralph de Dolis*, but having no issue was succeeded by his brother,
- Richard 2d. de Rivers.** *Richard de Rivers*, who gave lands to the Abbey of *Brower*, to pray for the souls of his father and mother; he married *Margaret*, one of the co-heiresses of *John*, Lord *Bisset*; but having no issue was succeeded in the honors and estate by his uncle,
- William de Rivers.** *William de Rivers* (surnamed *de Vernon*) who had issue by his wife *Mabil*, daughter of the Earl of *Mallent*, *Baldwin*, his son and heir, who, dying before his father, left issue by his wife (*Margaret*, daughter of *Warren Fitzgerald*)
- Baldwin 3d. de Rivers.** *Baldwin de Rivers* who succeeded his grandfather, and married *Amisia*, daughter of *Gilbert de Clare*, Earl of *Gloucester*: this *Baldwin* dying young was succeeded by his son *Baldwin*, a child: who being placed under the care of *Peter de Savoy* (at the request of *Queen Eleanor*) married *Avice* his daughter, and had

had issue, a son, who dying in his infancy, the honors and estate descended to his sister *Isabella*; she was married to *William de Fortibus*, Earl of *Albermarle*, by whom she had, only, a daughter named *Aveline*, who dying in her infancy, the honor came to

CHAP. II.  
*Isabella de Fortibus.*

*Hugh de Courtenay*, grandson of *Robert de Courtenay*, Baron of *Okehampton*, who (having married *Mary* the daughter of *William de Vernon*, late Earl of *Devon*) was, by letters patent of King *Edward* the third, created Earl of *Devonshire*, as next heir, by descent, to the said *Isabella*: this *Hugh de Courtenay*, was succeeded by his son,

*Hugh de Courtenay*, first Earl of that family.

*Hugh de Courtenay*, who married *Margaret* daughter of *Humphrey de Bohun*, Earl of *Hereford* and *Essex*; by whom he had several children: *Hugh*, the eldest son died unmarried: *Edward*, the second son married *Emmeline*, daughter of *Sir John Dauney*, Knight; by her he had two sons, *Edward* and *Hugh*: *Edward*, son of *Hugh de Courtenay*, dying before his father, the honor descended to his son,

*Hugh de Courtenay* 2d.

*Edward*, who succeeded his grandfather, in the *Earldom of Devon*. This Earl *Edward* was a person of great valour, and abilities, and was made, by King *Richard* the second, Earl *Marshall of England*, and Admiral of his fleet.

*Edward Courtenay*.

*Hugh*, his eldest son, succeeded in his father's honors, and the command of the fleet: on the 16th June, tenth year of the reign of *Henry* the fifth he died, leaving

*Hugh de Courtenay* 3d.

*Thomas de Courtenay*, his son and heir; he favoured the pretensions of *Richard*, Duke of *York*, to the crown, and entered into his conspiracy against *Henry* the sixth; but dying before any open attempts were made, left his son,

*Thomas de Courtenay*.

*Thomas de Courtenay*, his heir. He (contrary to his father's principles) adhered to the house of *Lancaster*; and was rewarded with the manor and borough of *Milburton* and *Merswade*; lands forfeited by *Richard* Duke of *York*: but these he soon lost again, by the success of *Edward*, Duke of *York*, who obtained the crown from *Henry* the sixth: he lived only one month after, and left his honors to,

*Thomas de Courtenay* 2d.

*Thomas*, his son, who, having been with his father in the battle of *Towton-field*, against King *Edward* the fourth, was attainted by Parliament, but again taking arms in the same cause, was slain at the battle of *Tewksbury* (not beheaded at *York*, as *Camden* relates.) His brother *Henry* obtained all the lands, of which, *Thomas*, the late Earl died seized of from *Edward* the fourth; but not the *Earldom*: for, *Humphrey*, Lord *Stafford* of *Southwick* was created, by that King, Earl of *Devon*. He, revolting from his benefactor, was taken prisoner, and beheaded, at *Bridgewater*, without any legal

*Thomas de Courtenay* 3d.

*Humphrey Lord Stafford* made Earl of *Devon*.

- CHAP. II.** trial; having enjoyed his honors about three months only. The title of Earl of *Devon* remained dormant till the accession of *Henry* the seventh, who, sensible of the loyalty of the *Courtenay* family to the *Lancastrian* line, restored *Edward Courtenay*, of *Haccomb* (grandson of *Hugh Courtenay*, younger brother to Earl *Edward*) to the honor and estates of his ancestors. This Earl, and his son *William*, violently opposed *Perkin Warbeck*, and forced him to raise the siege of *Exeter*: his successor was, *William* before mentioned, who was imprisoned in the Tower, through the jealousy of King *Henry* the seventh: but released by *Henry* the eighth; and dying soon after, the Earldom was restored to *Henry*, his son and successor, whom *Henry* the eighth greatly esteemed for his near alliance to his mother, being her Sister's son. He also created him Marquis of *Exeter*; but being afterwards accused of a Treasonable correspondence with Cardinal *Pole*, he was attainted and beheaded, and his son *Edward* imprisoned in the Tower of *London*, where he continued till the accession of Queen *Mary*.
- Edward Courtenay 2d.
- Henry Courtenay.

### *Dukes of Exeter, to the Reformation.*

- Exeter*, having highly deserved of Majesty for its loyalty, has been greatly distinguished by giving the title of *Duke*, before any other, to
- John Holland made Duke of Exeter, and beheaded.
- John Holland*, Earl of *Huntingdon*, who being brother (by the mother's side) to King *Richard* the second, was by him made *Duke of Exeter*; but *Richard* being deposed by *Henry* the fourth, the *Duke of Exeter*, joining in a conspiracy to restore him, was deprived of his honor and life together; the honor then lay dormant till the reign of King *Henry* the fifth, who in the fourth year of his reign created
- Thomas Beaufort.
- Thomas Beaufort* (then Earl of *Dorset*) *Duke of Exeter*. He was descended from the house of *Lancaster*, being the youngest son of *John of Gaunt*, by the Lady *Katharine Swinford*; and was a Prince as eminent for his wisdom and courage, as for high birth and station. He died without issue, and
- John Holland 2d.
- John Holland*, (son of the before mentioned *John Holland*) was restored to his Father's honor and estate by King *Henry* the six. He was succeeded by
- Henry Holland.
- Henry Holland*, his son, who, during the prevalence of the house of *Lancaster*, flourished in great honor; but, when the family of *York* gained possession of the crown, he was attainted, and deprived of all his estates and honors; and taking refuge in the *Netherlands*, was reduced to such poverty

poverty (notwithstanding he married the sister of King CHAP. II.  
*Edward the fourth*) that *Philip de Commines* (the French  
 historian) testifies, that he saw him begging his bread, run-  
 ning with bare legs and feet after the *Duke of Burgundy's*  
 coach. He returned again into *England*; and was a princi-  
 pal commander at the battle of *Barnet*, whence, (the *Lancas-*  
*trians* being totally defeated) he made his escape; and, not-  
 withstanding the most diligent search, he was not discover-  
 ed, or seen, till his body was found cast on shore, on the coast  
 of *Kent*; leaving no issue, the title lay dormant until the reign  
 of *Henry the eighth*, who created *Henry Courtenay* (son of *Henry*  
*Lady Katharine*, daughter to *Edward the fourth*) Marquis of *Courtenay*  
*Exeter*: who, being accused of high treason, was beheaded; created  
 and the title again lay dormant till the reign of *James the* Marquis of  
*first.* *Exeter.*

*End of the second Chapter.*



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### CHAPTER III.

#### *From the death of King Henry VIII. to the Accession of King Charles II.*

##### CHAP. III.

Edward 6.

A. D.  
1547.

Duke of  
Somerset  
made Pro-  
tector.

Reforma-  
tion for-  
warded, con-  
firmed by  
parliament.

The Monks  
incite a re-  
bellion.

1549.

Inhabitants  
of Sampford  
Courtenay  
refuse to ad-  
mit the new  
liturgy,

their exam-  
ple follow-  
ed by others.  
The Jus-  
tices try to  
quell the  
riot: but  
without ef-  
fect.

**E**DWARD, being only nine years old at his accession to the throne, the power of government was lodged, according to King Henry's last will, in the hands of twelve Councillors of State, and sixteen Regents; and these appointed Edward Duke of Somerset (the King's maternal uncle) to be protector, and Governor of the King's person. He, thus intrusted with the education of the infant King, instilled in his breast a dislike to the errors and superstitions of the Church of Rome; and greatly forwarded the Reformation. By an act of parliament, all *private masses* were abolished, all images were removed from churches, the cup was restored to the laity: and the *Common Prayer*, and *Liturgy* were corrected: thus the Reformation and the King's supremacy were fully established,

The Monks and Massing Priests being thus driven from their cells, incited the people to a resistance against this innovation (as they termed it) of their holy religion; accordingly insurrections were fomented in many parts of the kingdom, and particularly in *Devonshire*,

At *Sampford Courtenay, Devon*, a most dangerous rebellion broke out: On Whitsunday the 9th of June, 1549, the day appointed by act of parliament for abolishing the *Popish mass* and *Ritual*, and for reading the new established *Liturgy* in the *English tongue*, a great murmuring arose, during the time of divine service, among the Parishioners of *Sampford Courtenay*, who, assembling the next day, compelled their parish priest to reassume his Popish vestments, and to read the *mass* as formerly: this was soon spread through the neighbouring parishes, the inhabitants of which assembling together in great numbers, compelled their pastors to follow the example of the priest of *Sampford Courtenay*. The Justices in the neighbourhood, viz. *Sir Hugh Pollard*, Knight, *Anthony Harvey*, *Alexander Wood*, and *Park Slader*, Esquires, informed of these commotions, immediately repaired to *Sampford*, and endeavoured to quiet the minds of the populace; but finding, after repeated conferences, that they still persisted in their obstinacy;

obstinacy; and dreading the use of force, they left the insurgents to their own wills. CHAP. III.

While this ferment was increasing, a gentleman named *William Hellions* (a *Fleming* by birth) who had, for some years, resided near *Sampford*, and was respected for his amiable character, endeavoured by fair speeches to persuade the people of *Sampford*, and those who had joined them to return to their habitations; and told them the consequences of persisting in rebellion against the laws of their King and Country: this so exasperated them, that one *Githbridge* struck him, with his bill, on the neck, and the blow being followed by several others, he was soon dispatched, and his body cut into several pieces. A gentleman named Hellions murdered by the rioters.

The Protector and Council despatched *Sir Peter Carew*, with his brother *Sir Gawen Carew*, into *Devonshire*, to examine into the causes of these commotions, and to endeavour to appease the people: they were met at *Exeter* by the principal gentlemen of the county, and proceeded to *Crediton*, where the main body of the Rebels had assembled, and fortified the town with ramparts; particularly the road which led to *Exeter*. At the town's end were two barns which commanded the road: these were strengthened with a barrier across which effectually blocked up any entrance into the town. Sir Peter & Sir Gawen Carew sent into Devonshire. Rebels fortified Crediton.

The gentlemen, thus prevented from entering, endeavoured to persuade the insurgents to submit to the laws, and retire to their respective homes: but finding all persuasions useless, they attempted to force an entrance, when a volley of shot and arrows compelled them to retreat: in this dilemma, a servant of *Sir Hugh Pollard*, set the barns on fire, which the rebels perceiving, fled immediately out of the town, leaving their opponents an easy entrance. Skirmish at Crediton, & the barns burnt.

The burning of the barns being spread over the country, with great exaggeration by designing people, who reported that the intention was no less than to burn all their houses, the exasperation was so great that the common people flocked from all quarters to the assistance of the rebels, while others were busily employed in fortifying their towns and villages, and bidding defiance to all government and laws. The people much exasperated.

At *St. Mary Clist*, about two miles from *Exeter*, a great number assembled themselves, chiefly through the instigation of an old woman, who being overtaken on the road going to the Parish church, with her beads in her hand, by a gentleman, named *Walter Raleigh*, † was admonished by him to forsake the errors, and blind superstition of the Church of

† The father of the great *Sir Walter Raleigh*.

**CHAP. III.** of Rome, and to submit to the new laws: this so aggravated the old bigot, that she hastened to the town, and so misrepresented the matter, as to cause the people assembled there to vow revenge on the gentleman; and therefore pursuing him, overtook him before he reached *Exeter*, and carried him back to the town; where, and in the tower of *St. Sidwell's* church, they kept him closely confined (often threatening his life) during the whole time of these commotions.

Mr. Walter Raleigh made prisoner by the rebels.

Information being received at *Exeter* of these proceedings at *Chist*, *Sir Peter* and *Sir Gwren Carew*, *Sir Hugh Pollard*, *Sir Thomas Dennis*, and others, accompanied by their servants and followers, rode thither; but the bridge leading to the town being barricaded by large trees laid across, and defended by a piece of cannon, which the rebels had procured from *Esmouth*, *Sir Peter Carew* alighted from his horse, and endeavoured to bring the opponents to a conference: this they refused; and the gunner (*John Hamon*, a Smith by trade, and a foreigner) charged the cannon and levelled it at *Sir Peter*, who would have been shot, but for the prevention of a servant to sergeant *Prideaux*. The gentlemen sent a messenger desiring a conference, which was at length agreed to; and *Sir Thomas Dennis*, *Sir Hugh Pollard*, and *Thomas Yarde*, Esq. were admitted into the town; but, after a considerable time, and not being able to prevail on the rebels to lay down their arms, they were suffered to depart; and thus, without effecting any thing, they returned to *Exeter*, where they held a consultation with the *Mayer*, who informed them that the city was unprovided with victuals to satisfy so many people, and therefore advised them to shift for themselves: consequently they left the city (escaping through byeways) to withstand a long siege, accompanied with the horrors of intestine commotions and famine. §

*Sir Thomas Dennis*, &c. escape through byeways.

*Sir Peter Carew* escaped to *George Hinton* in *Somersetshire*, where he was met by *Lord Russel* (Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*) who had been sent from *London* to endeavour to quell the disturbances; but without men or arms, as government was busily employed in the war with *Scotland*, and therefore the principal forces were in the *North*; *Sir Peter Carew* and his followers being thus obliged to remain inactive, the rebels were strongly encouraged to proceed: they immediately invested *Exeter*, blocking up the highways, and

Rebels invest *Exeter*.

§ The complexion of the times was now greatly altered, when those powerful barons who, not a century ago, defied their monarchs at the head of powerful armies, could not now oppose a handful of half armed and undisciplined peasants!

and thereby preventing any intercourse between the citizens and the neighbouring country. The rebels now began to assume some sort of discipline, regulating themselves into companies, and choosing Commanders, the principal of which were *Underhill*, a Taylor, *Maunder*, a Shoemaker: *Seager*, a Labourer, and *Asheridge*, a hawker of fish: but, the news of the dispersion of *Sir Peter Carew*, and the blockade of *Exeter* being quickly spread abroad, others of better account were induced to join them, particularly, \* *Sir Thomas Pomeroy*, Knight, *John Berry*, Esq. *Mr. Coffin*, a gentleman of fortune; *Humphrey Arundel*, Esq. Governor of *St. Michael's mount*, in *Cornwall*, *Winneslade*, Esq. with several others of note, by whose example, the rebels were increased in numbers and spirits; they summoned the citizens to an immediate surrender, which being refused, they commenced a close siege, and assaulted the city in different parts at once, attempting to scale the walls: but were repulsed by the citizens, with a great loss of their men.

CHAP. III.

Principal Commanders of the rebels,

joined by many gentlemen of estate.

Rebels attempt to scale the walls,

The magistrates, and loyal citizens were determined not to submit: they prepared every necessary means of defence, and the rebels finding themselves strongly repulsed in their attempts on the walls, proceeded to burn the gates, in which they succeeded; but the citizens, by making intrenchments within (in the form of crescents) and firing their Port pieces, made great slaughter among the assailants, and prevented their entrance. The rebels then endeavoured to overthrow the walls by mining, but the citizens, apprized of their intentions, made countermines, into which they let a great quantity of water, which (assisted by a violent and sudden shower of rain at that time) so wetted their powder, that it had no effect.

they burn the gates,

endeavour to blow up the walls, without effect,

The rebels finding themselves thus foiled in all their attempts, and knowing the city had but a small quantity of provisions, made no doubt of starving it into compliance; and accordingly they so closely blocked up all the avenues that nothing could be conveyed into, or out of the city: this in a short time, caused such a scarcity, that many of the inhabitants began to murmur against the Magistrates, in which they were backed by those disaffected citizens who wished success to the rebels; but the prudence of the Magistrates kept the major part of the citizens in spirits, and hope of relief: many associated themselves together, and made several successful sallies, in which they often made prize of live cattle,

attempt to starve the citizens.

An association formed and frequent sallies made.

\* *Sir Thomas Pomeroy*, joining in this desperate rebellion, was the ruin of himself and family, which, before this, was esteemed one of the first in the county of *Devon*, both for antiquity and opulence.

## CHAP. III.

Citizens reduced to the greatest distress.

Dissensions among the citizens.

Lord Russel in want of men and money, supplied by three merchants of Exeter.

Skirmish at Fenniton bridge, rebels worsted.

Lord Russel returns to Honiton, is reinforced.

The rebels attack the King's army at Woodbury-hill,

tle, and other provisions, which was a great relief, as the besieged were reduced to the utmost distress, even to the eating the flesh of their horses, and to substitute bran for bread. This course fare, and that but scanty, increased the dissensions, which were abetted by some ill designing men, and occasioned several insurrections against the Magistrates: particularly, at one time, in *Southgate-street*, (but two days before their deliverance) where the *Papists* assembled together in arms, and attempted to get possession of the *Gate*; but were timely prevented by the vigilance of the guard, and the ringleaders were sent to prison. They had likewise endeavoured to seduce the soldiers in garrison at the castle: this was fortunately discovered, and a guard of citizens was placed there to prevent any future designs.

During this accumulated distress, the citizens continued stedfast in their allegiance, and daily expected to be relieved by *Lord Russel*, who had removed from *George Hinton* to *Mohuns Ottery*, and from thence to *Honiton*: he had got there a small supply of men; but being in want of money, he procured assistance through the interest of three merchants of *Exeter*, who were at that time with him: these were *Mr. Thomas Prestwood*, *Mr. John Bodlie*, and *Mr. John Periam*. Thus furnished he set out towards *Exeter*, desirous of relieving the citizens, of whose distress, and inability to hold out much longer he had been informed.

The rebels gaining intelligence of his march towards them, and the small force he had with him, set out to meet him; (leaving a sufficient number to continue the siege) the parties met at *Fenniton bridge*, where a sharp conflict ensued, when the rebels were worsted, and having lost about 300 men, were obliged to retreat.

*Lord Russel* having had a specimen of the desperate valour of the rebels, and not thinking his forces sufficient to stand a general engagement, he sent a messenger to assure the citizens of a speedy relief, and returned back to *Honiton*, where he was soon joined by *Lord Grey* of *Wilton* with a body of Horsemen; and Colonel *Spinola* (an *Italian*) at the head of 300 harquebusiers: thus reinforced he once more set forward to the relief of the citizens, on the 3d of August. His forces (consisting of more than 1000 men) were marched out of the common road, across the downs, to a windmill on *Woodbury-hill*, where they encamped for the night.

The rebels, at *Clist* having intelligence of his Lordship's approach, set out early the next morning and attacked his camp with great resolution; and, though often repulsed, returned to the attack with the most desperate valour, till the greatest

greatest part of them being slain, the remainder retreated to *Bishop's Clist*, and fortified all the avenues to it, sending an account of their defeat to their confederates: *Lord Russell* then proceeded for *Clist-town*, dividing his small army into three divisions in order to attack, at one time, the three different avenues, which were strongly barricadoed and intrenched.

CHAP. III.

and are defeated.

The King's army attack Bishop's Clist

*Sir William Francis* (a gentleman of Somersetshire) who commanded one of the divisions, after some contest drove the rebels from their intrenchments; and the whole of the King's army were marching into the town, when an alarm being spread that a large body of rebels were advancing in their rear in order to cut off their retreat; a sudden panic prevailed, and they withdrew with great confusion, leaving behind their artillery, and waggons which contained their ammunition and other stores: these fell into the hands of the rebels, who, exultingly conveyed them into the town.

A false rumor prevails among the King's troops: they lose their artillery and stores.

This disaster to the King's troops was occasioned by a stratagem of *Sir Thomas Pomeroy*, who, having secreted himself (while the army was passing) in a furze brake, with, only, a trumpeter and drummer, ordered them (as he perceived the King's troops entering the town) to sound, and beat a march; which being heard by the waggon drivers, they immediately fled, and reported that a large body of the rebels were attacking their rear: and this, spreading through the army, caused the hasty retreat: nor did the panic cease till they had regained the top of the hill: from which, as it commanded the surrounding country, they saw no enemy near. Ashamed of their conduct, they were prevailed on by their commanders to return to the attack. The rebels, elated by their late success, defended themselves with great resolution, and being in possession of the banks which overhung the deep roads, had greatly the advantage of situation over the King's troops: many of whom were slain, particularly *Sir William Francis*, who commanded the van: the King's army at length prevailing, forced an entrance into the town; but, many of their men being slain by shots from the houses, they set fire to them as they proceeded and such of the rebels, who could not escape, were burnt in them, while others who found themselves closely pressed, endeavoured to escape across the river; but the tide being very high at that time, many were drowned in the attempt: the loss in killed, burnt, and drowned was calculated at near 1000, exclusive of a great number taken prisoners.

Sir Thomas Pomeroy's stratagem, the cause of the retreat.

The King's army return to the attack.

Sir William Francis slain.

The rebels defeated &amp; the town burnt.

The King's party having thus got possession of the town attempted to pass the river, over the bridge; but were put to

P 2

a stand,

**CHAP. III.** a stand, by the bridge being barricadoed very strongly by great trees laid athwart, and a large cannon placed on it, by which stood a gunner with a lighted match: at this instant *Mr. John Yard* (who lived in the neighbourhood) passing a ford above the bridge, with a few soldiers, one of his company came unware behind the gunner, and killed him on the spot: the trees were then removed, and the whole army passed over, and encamped on *Clist heath*, when a fresh rumour being spread that another large body of rebels were marching towards them from *Woodbury*, an order was given to put the whole of the prisoners to the sword, which was immediately put into execution. †

The King's army encamp on *Clist heath*.

All the prisoners put to the sword.

The whole body of rebels march to *Clist heath*.

A bloody battle in which the rebels are totally defeated.

The siege of *Exeter* raised.

Lord *Russel* comes to *Exeter*.

The rebels advised of the defeat of their comrades at *Clist heath* collected themselves together, and marched the same night to *Clist heath* (determined to try the issue of a general engagement) and pitched their camp, opposite to the King's army, in a place difficult of access, having lofty hedges in their front, and which they further strengthened by deep ditches and high banks: ‡ on these they planted their cannon, which they discharged on the King's troops with very great effect. *Lord Russel* seeing the disadvantage of attacking them in this situation, ordered a passage to be opened through the hedges, and over the inclosures which led to their rear; when a bloody battle commenced, and was maintained with great obstinacy by the rebels, who disputed every inch of ground, but, after a terrible slaughter, they were totally defeated, and fled in every direction, leaving all their cannon and stores to the victors. After the battle, the army marched to *Topsham*, carrying with them, on a horse litter, the body of *Sir William Francis*, which was interred the next day in the body of *St. Peter's Cathedral*, with all military honours. The rebels who were left to continue the siege of *Exeter*, shifted for themselves by a speedy flight; and the gentlemen, who had fallen into their hands, and been kept prisoners in the churches, being thus liberated, repaired to the city walls and informed the centinels of the happy success of the King's army, which promised a speedy relief.

Early on the next morning (the 6th of August,) Lord *Russel* marched for *Exeter*; where he arrived about 8 o'clock, and encamped his army in *St. John's fields*. § Well knowing

† The great disproportion in the number of the King's troops and that of the rebels, pleads some justification for this act of inhumanity; and it appears that Lord *Russel* acted only from one of the first principles of human nature, self preservation.

‡ Great part of these intrenchments still remain on *Clist heath*.

§ Now termed the *Barnfield*, with the adjoining fields between *South-emay* and the ditch.

knowing the distress that reigned within the walls, he sent parties to scour the country, and collect provisions: these orders were so well executed, that great supplies were soon procured for the comfort of the half famished citizens: though many, by eating immoderately after so long a fasting, died suddenly.

CHAP. III.

The soldiers bring in plenty of provisions.

Thus after a long and painful siege, which continued from 2d of July, to the 6th of August, a happy termination was put to their sufferings; and the Magistrates, in gratitude to the Almighty, appointed the 6th of August to be annually kept as a day of thanksgiving; and this is continued to the present time. \*

The 6th of August annually kept.

The next day, *Lord Russel*, being reinforced by 1000 *Welchmen*, under the command of *Sir William Herbert*, detached several bodies of troops in pursuit of the rebels, who still kept together in parties; and at *Sampford Courtenay*, in particular, great numbers of *Devonshire* and *Cornish* men were again assembled, who, not regarding their late defeats, were determined to try the issue of another battle: information of this being brought to *Lord Russel*, he ordered his whole army to march to *Sampford*: and finding the rebels deaf to all persuasions, he ordered a general attack, which was begun by *Sir William Herbert* (at his own request) at the head of the *Welchmen*: the rebels made a stout defence, and killed many of the assailants particularly *Mr. Ap Owen*, a young gentleman much regretted: his body was conveyed to *Exeter*, and buried in the cathedral, with military honors. The town was at length forced, and the rebels obstinately refusing quarter, most of them were put to the sword.

1000 *Welchmen* join the King's army.

The rebels again assemble at *Sampford Courtenay*.

The greatest part of them slain.

*Mr. Ap Owen* slain.

In this, and their former defeats, it is estimated that near 4000 of the rebels were slain, and a great number taken prisoners, among whom were their principal commanders.

Near 4000 rebels slain.

*Lord Russel*, on his return to *Exeter*, finding the insurgents were still persisting in their evil intentions, gave orders for spoiling the country; and parties of soldiers being sent out for that purpose, they executed their orders with the greatest cruelty, burning the houses, seizing and destroying the property of the poor defenceless inhabitants, sparing neither rebel nor Royalist, neither friend nor foe, so that the country for many miles exhibited a scene of desolation, and did not recover its former state for many years.

The Country spoiled.

Lord

\* The Mayor, Chamber, and corporated trades, walk annually in procession on this day to the cathedral, where a sermon is preached on the occasion by one of the Mayor's Chaplains; and the cathedral bells are rung.



## CHAP. III.

Lord Russel goes into Cornwall.

Principal ringleaders executed in London.

Others executed in Exeter.

The King, by Letter thanks the citizens and confirms their charter.

The manor of Exe island granted to the citizens.

A. D. 1551.

Inventory taken of the church plate, &c.

*Lord Russel* proceeded into *Cornwall*, and after taking severe vengeance on the principal ringleaders (who fell into his hands) by executing martial law on them, he returned back to *Exeter*, when a commission was appointed for trying the prisoners whom they had left in custody; the principal commanders, *Humphrey Arundel*, *Winneslade*, *Berry*, *Coffin*, and *Holmes*, were sent to *London*, where they were tried, convicted and executed as traitors: those of an inferior rank were tried and executed in the like manner, at *Exeter*; the common people, who had been unwarily drawn into the rebellion were pardoned, and sent to their respective habitations. †

The brave defence made by the citizens in this rebellion, was justly applauded throughout the whole kingdom, and especially by the King and Privy council: the Lord Protector himself sending them a Letter in the King's name, thanking them in the most grateful terms for their courage and fidelity and assuring them of his Majesty's favour and protection. Soon after, the King, by his Royal mandate, renewed their charters, and confirmed their privileges, granting to them, and their successors, for ever, the rich Manor of *Exe island*, of which they had been unjustly deprived from the time of the Norman conquest. ‡

A commission was this year sent from *London*, directed to *Miles*, Bishop of *Exeter*; *William Hurst*, Mayor; *Thomas Prestwood*, and others, commanding them to return an exact inventory of all the plate, jewels, goods and ornaments belonging to the several churches within this city and county, which was accordingly done; the commissioners only requesting that the amount of near 1000 ounces of plate which had been given by the several parishes, towards the making the new haven, might be exempted. On the receipt of the inventory, another order was sent down, commanding the commissioners

† One execution deserves notice, which is that of the *Rev. Mr. Welch*, Vicar of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, near *Exeter*, who, though possessed of many amiable qualities, was a conspicuous ringleader and abettor of this unnatural rebellion: which being proved on his trial, as well as the murder of — *Kingwell*, a Protestant, whom he caused to be hung on a tree in *Exe island*, he was condemned to be hanged on a gibbet erected for that purpose, on the tower of his own parish Church, this was fully executed, and his body remained on the gibbet till the restoration of Popery in the reign of *Queen Mary*.

‡ Soon after the conquest, *King William* granted to *Richard de Brionis*, the Barony of *Oakhampton*, to which he added as a member, the manor of *Exe island*: from him it descended to the *Courtenays*, who kept possession of it (notwithstanding the determination of several suits at law in favor of the citizens) till the attainder of *Henry Courtenay*, Marquis of *Exeter*, anno 1538; when it reverted to the *Crowes*, in whose possession it remained till this period.

commissioners to send up all the superfluous plate, crucifixes, CHAP. III.  
images of Saints, &c. to be disposed of for the use of govern-  
ment.

A pension of 40s. per annum was granted under the com-  
mon seal of this city, to *Sir Peter Carew, Knight*.

A. D.  
1552.

King Edward (to the great grief of the protestant part of  
the nation) died on the 6th of July, 1553, aged only 16 years;  
and was succeeded by his eldest sister, Mary.

**MAYORS and BAILIFFS** in the reign of **EDWARD VI.**

1547.	William Smith.	Henry Harris.
<i>John Midwinter.</i>	Richard Prestwood.	Robert Horwood.
John Drake.	William Reynolds.	1552.
Thomas Skidmore.	Thomas Lambert.	<i>William Tothill.</i>
John Bodley.	1550.	John Periam.
John Blackall.	<i>Thomas Prestwood.</i>	Thomas Spicer.
1548.	John Hurst.	John Smith.
<i>John Blackaller.</i>	Walter Staplehill.	Richard Gifford.
William Tothill.	Peter Lake.	1553.
Jeffery Arundel.	Thomas Beaufitz.	<i>William Smith.</i>
Henry Maunder.	1551.	Walter Staplehill.
John Tooker.	<i>William Hurst.</i>	John Peter.
1549.	Morris Levermore.	John Dyer.
<i>John Tuckfield.</i>	John Trowbridge.	Tho. Richardson.

There was a short *interregnum* from the death of King Mary.  
*Edward* to the accession of his Sister *Mary*: he, well knowing  
his Sister's attachment to the papal religion, appointed by  
his last will, the *Lady Jane Grey*, his first cousin, to suc-  
ceed him on the throne, and she was accordingly proclaimed  
Queen; but many of the principal nobility espousing the in-  
terest of *Mary*, the unfortunate *Lady Jane* was deserted by  
her friends, and she willingly resigned her pretensions.

A. D.  
1553.

*Lady Jane*  
*Grey* pro-  
claimed  
Queen.

*Mary*, on her accession, set the *Roman catholics* at liberty,  
restored the deprived Bishops, and allowed a general liberty  
of conscience, until the sitting of the parliament; when by  
an act they restored the *Romish religion*, and forbade the ex-  
ercise of any other on pain of death.

*Q. Mary*  
restores the  
*romish* re-  
ligion.

The little conduit, in *Southgate-Street*, was rebuilt at the  
expence of the Mayor (for this year) William Smith, Esq. §  
*John*

Little con-  
duit in  
*Southgate*-  
street.

§ This conduit stood where the Pump now stands, but becoming  
ruinous, and the pipes being choaked or lost, a well was dug, and the  
Pump erected in its place.

CHAP. III. *John Powell*, (alias *Hooker*) author of the ancient history of *Exeter*, was appointed the first Chamberlain thereof.

A. D.  
1554.

The nation  
resumes the  
Papish  
Yoke.

Queen *Mary*, having married *Philip*, King of *Spain*, called a new parliament, who passed an act for entirely suppressing the Protestant religion, and restoring the Roman catholic; after which, *Cardinal Pole* reconciled the nation to the see of *Rome*, and absolved it from all ecclesiastical censure.

1555.

Sir *John Pollard Knight*, was admitted to the freedom of this city, and afterwards chosen one of its representatives in parliament, wherein he proved of great service in promoting the liberties of the citizens.

1556.

Merchants  
incorporated.

The Merchant adventurers of this city trading to *France* and beyond the Seas, were incorporated by the Queen's charter.

Queen  
*Mary* per-  
secutes the  
protestants.

The Queen, through the instigation of *Gardiner*, Bishop of *Winchester*, and *Bonner*, Bishop of *London*, persecuted the protestants with unrelenting severity: great numbers refusing to recant, were executed with the most excruciating tortures: among which was one *Agnes Priest*, a poor woman of *Lanncoston* in *Cornwall*, she being very zealous for the protestant religion, contrary to the opinion of her husband and children, they endeavoured to prevail on her to go to *Mass*; but she refusing, they used her very cruelly; and, in order to avoid such hardships, she left her family, and wandered up and down the country: some time after, returning home, her husband and children informed against her to *Dr. Turberville*, Bishop of *Exeter*, who caused her to be apprehended and brought to his prison; where she, in the most public manner, declared her sentiments of religion, denying the real presence in the sacrament of the Lord's supper, asserting it was the type and figure only, and that no person doth really eat the body of *Christ*, but spiritually: after several examinations, refusing to recant these opinions, she was condemned to be burnt, and this sentence was accordingly executed upon her in *Southernhay*, 15th August, 1557.

*Agnes Priest* burnt  
on *Southernhay*.

1557.

After her condemnation, she was visited by some friends who offered her money, but she refused it, saying, she was going to a place where money had no mastery.

Queen  
*Mary* dies.

The unrelenting severity of the Queen, and her Ministers, with the loss of *Calais* which had been taken from the *English*, by the *French*, entirely alienated the affections of her subjects: this so preyed upon her spirits, that she died of a broken heart on 17th November, 1558, to the great joy of the Protestants: and was succeeded by her Sister *Elizabeth*.

MAYORS

**MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Queen MARY. CHAP. III.**

1554.	John Spark.	John Blackhall.
<i>John Midwinter.</i>	Peter Tross.	Eustace Oliver.
Griffith Amerecath.	1556.	Thomas Marshall.
Michael Brown.	<i>Walter Staplehill.</i>	Robert Chave.
William May.	Robert Midwinter.	1559.
John Coggan.	Richard Hellyard.	<i>John Buller</i>
1555.	Stephen Vilvain.	Richard Prestwood.
<i>Morris Levermore.</i>	John Howell.	Simon Knight.
John Peter.	1557.	Thomas Chapell.
William Seldon.	<i>John Peter.</i>	Edward Lymett.

Elizabeth ascended the throne to the general joy of the Protestants; and began her reign by restoring the reformed religion. Soon after her coronation, she deprived the Popish Bishops, and filled the vacant sees with such learned men as she knew were zealous in the protestant interest: *Dr Turberville*, the Bishop of *Exeter* was removed, and *William Alleigh* a learned man, was appointed in his room; who, when he came to take possession of his diocess (accompanied by the Earl of *Bedford*, Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*) was received with great pomp and solemnity by the Mayor and Citizens, and conducted to the Cathedral.

Soon after this, a dispute arose between the Mayor and Bishop: the latter had obtained a commission from the Queen to act as a justice of the peace, within the limits of the city; but this being contrary to the charters granted to the citizens, the Mayor strongly opposed his acting in that capacity within his limits, and the dispute being referred to the Queen, she approved of the Mayor's conduct, and ordered the Bishop to desist from his pretensions and confirmed the citizens in all their former rights and privileges.

The Queen granted the City a charter, under her great seal, for orphans, which was confirmed the next year by an act of parliament.

The Grammar school (commonly called the High school) near the little conduit \* in the High-street, being in a ruinous state, was, by a contribution of the citizens (at the request of the schoolmaster, Mr Williams,) new built, ceiled and seated.

## Q

## The

\* This conduit was situated in the middle of the street, near St Laurence's Church, and hath long since been demolished: the porch of the said church was built out of the materials. The statue of Queen Elizabeth now standing on this porch, was removed from this conduit.

CHAP. III<sup>d</sup>

A. D.

1562.

The Queens patent for continuing the pay to the poor people of Bonville's alms houses & St. John's hospital.

1563.

Alms people to attend divine service daily

The lands appropriated for the maintenance of the alms people in the *Combrew* (Lord Bonville's alms houses in *Rock lane*) † by the attainder of the said Lord, reverting to the Queen, and there being at the dissolution of monasteries four alms men still remaining in the late dissolved hospital of *St. John*, ‡ the Queen, by her Letters patent, dated 7th November, 1562, ordered the pay of the said poor alms people, and pensioners of *St. John's* hospital to be continued from the Crown, and invested in the Mayor and Chamber the appointment of the said poor people, and pensioners, to them and their heirs for ever.

An order was made by the Mayor and Chamber, that all the poor people belonging to the alms houses within the city and its suburbs (excepting such as were incapable through age or sickness) should attend divine service daily at the Cathedral.

The Plague raging in *London*, all communication therewith was forbid, and St. Nicholas's fair was, for this year discontinued.

1564.

An annuity of 10*l.* per annum, was granted by the Mayor and Chamber, to *Sir William Cecil*, Knight, and another annuity of 20 marks per annum was granted to *Mr. Jeffery Tothill*, in token of their past services to the citizens.

1565.

Some thieves found means to rob the Exchequer, belonging to the Cathedral, but finding the booty more than they wanted, they returned the overplus.

1568.

A great frost, and sudden thaw.

The latter end of this year there was a severe frost, which was attended by a sudden thaw; in consequence of it, great inundations were caused, which did much damage, particularly to the Bridges and Wears: *Calabear Wear* (now *Head Wear*) was entirely destroyed, but afterwards rebuilt in a much stronger manner.

1569.

A great plague.

The plague broke out in this city, and raged with such great violence, that it occasioned most of the principal inhabitants and their families to leave their habitations, and seek a refuge in the country, from this deplorable calamity.

1571.

*Agnes*, the wife of *John James* (late of this city) was burnt on *Southernhay*, for poisoning her husband.

A pension

† These alms houses, through neglect of the trustees many years ago, were suffered to run to decay, so that there is not the least vestige remaining: the scite was granted to Colonel Newton of Exeter, whose heirs sold it to Mr Stribling, and it now belongs to Mr. Robert Russel: but the alms peoples' bounty is still received from the Crown by the Chamber.

‡ The pay of these pensioners or alms men has lately been discontinued; though two of them are still living.—Grigg, a Shoemaker, and —Barret a Peruke maker.

A pension of 40*s.* per annum was granted to *Sir Gawen Carew*, Knight, and after his decease, to remain to *Edmund Tremayne Esq.* for his life, in gratitude for the great services they had rendered to the City.

*Thomas Williams Esq.* one of the representatives for this City, being chosen speaker of the *House of Commons*, was presented, by the citizens, with a purse containing 20*l.* in gold, as a token of their gratitude for the great services he had done them; but dying soon after, *Sir Peter Carew* was elected by the citizens, in his room, as one of their representatives.

A court of Hustings was erected in the Guildhall, and seats properly built for the better accommodation of the Mayor and Aldermen; and in the following year, the Hall was new glazed, ceiled and beautified, and a Pump erected in the front of it.

*John Jones* of this city, goldsmith, presented to the Mayor, a silver bason and ewer, (value 30*l.*) for the use of him and his successors, at all public entertainments, for ever.

Before the late dissolution of Monasteries, numbers of poor people were daily fed and relieved at the gates of the abbeys and nunneries, who being thus indulged in a habit of idleness, and having no inclination to labour, rambled up and down the country, which was filled with lusty mendicants to the great hurt of the industrious. This being represented to her Majesty, she ordered houses of correction to be erected in the cities and towns, and proper officers placed therein, to compel those who were able, to maintain themselves by hard labour, and to punish the refractory. Pursuant to this order, one was erected in this city, by the voluntary contributions of the citizens, who, seeing the necessity of the measure, subscribed very largely towards the erection of it, and its future maintenance.

The Queen commanded the Dean and Chapter, to furnish eleven horsemen, with proper arms and furniture, to be sent into Ireland, on her Majesty's service, to join the army there, opposing the rebellion of O'Neal.

Great part of the lands of this city and county being held by the custom of *gavelkind*, § an act of parliament was procured (at the expence of the Mayor and Chamber) by which all lands within the same, should descend and be inheritable, as lands at common law.

Q 2

The

§ *Gavelkind* i. e. Give all kind (a custom derived from our Saxon Ancestors) by which all lands were equally divided among the Sons, the youngest receiving an equal share with the eldest.

CHAP. III.

A. D.  
1574.A Pension granted to  
Sr. Gawen  
Carew, &c.  
1575.Citizens  
present  
Thomas  
Williams,  
Esq. with  
with 20*l.* in  
gold.  
1576.

1578.

The Queen  
orders houses  
of correction  
to be  
built,one is erected  
in this  
city.

1580.

Eleven  
horsemen  
sent into  
Ireland.  
1581.Custom of  
*gavelkind*.

## CHAP. III.

Sluices  
erected on  
the new  
canal.

A. D.  
1582.

The Earl of  
Bath married  
to the  
Lady Elizabeth  
Russel.

1583.

Fines for  
houses and  
chimnies  
on fire.

1584.

The King  
of Portugal  
comes to  
this city.

1586.

Terrible  
sickness  
breaks out  
at the Assizes,

the Judge,  
8 Justices,  
11 Jurymen,  
and many  
others die of  
it.

The supposed  
occasion  
of this sickness.

The new canal, leading to the quay, was enlarged, deepened, and sluices erected thereon, for the better conveying of merchandize up to the city.

The Right Honourable *William Earl of Bath*, was, on the 7th of August, this year, married at St. Stephen's Church in this city, to the Lady *Elizabeth Russel*, daughter of the Earl of *Bedford*; on which occasion, the citizens presented the new married couple, with a bason and ewer of silver, richly gilt: they also made a grand cavalcade, and exhibited all manner of diversions, on *Southernhay*, in honour of the said marriage, the Lady being a native of this city, and born in *Bedford house*.

An ancient custom, was now confirmed by an act of the Mayor and common council, to compel every inhabitant (whose house shall have happened to be on fire) to pay a fine of 20s. and for his chimney (if on fire) 6s. 8d. \*

Don Anthonio, who had been crowned King of *Portugal*, but was driven thence, by the Spaniards, came to this city, in his way to *London*, to solicit aid from Queen *Elizabeth*, and was hospitably received and entertained, with his retinue, at the Mayor's house, during the whole of his stay.

At the Lent assizes, held this year at the castle of *Exeter*, before *Sir Edmund Anderson*, Lord Chief Justice of the common pleas; and Sergeant *Flowerby*, one of the Barons of the Exchequer; a noisome, pestilential smell came from the prisoners, who were arraigned at the Crown Bar, which so affected the people present, that many were seized with a violent sickness, which proved mortal to the greatest part of them: of those who sat on the Bench, there died, the Judge, Sergeant *Flowerby*; *Sir John Chichester*, *Sir Arthur Basset*, and *Sir Bernard Drake*, Knights; *Thomas Carew*, *R. Cary*, *John Fortescue*, *John Waldron*, and *Thomas Risdon*, Esquires, Justices of the Peace; eleven of the jurymen, and a great number of Constables and others, who attended the Court.

This disorder spread itself through the city and surrounding country, proving fatal to numbers: this assize, from the consequences attending it, was called the *black assize*. The sickness was supposed to have originated from some Portuguese seamen, whose ship being taken by *Sir Bernard Drake*, on her voyage from *Newfoundland*, (laden with fish) the crew, in number 38 men, and boys, were sent to the goal near *Exeter castle*; and being greatly emaciated (from a long voyage

\* This fine of 6s. 8d. is still demanded, in case of Chimnies being on fire, and distresses made on refusal of payment: this, though distressing to individuals, is beneficial to the community, as it makes the citizens careful in keeping their chimnies always clear from soot.

age and want of provisions) and confined in a stinking CHAP. III.  
dungeon, † having no change of apparel, and lying on the  
damp ground, they infected one another; and no proper  
care being taken of them, the most part sickened, and many  
died.

The infection was soon communicated to the other prisoners, and few of them escaped the fatality of the disorder. These unhappy foreigners were ordered to be brought for examination before the Justices; but being reduced by famine and sickness, they were unable to stand, and therefore were carried by men, on hand barrows, to the court, where they excited the commiseration of the spectators: proper care was then taken, and the survivors were sent to *Portugal*.

The Queen having granted the forfeited estates of the *Irish rebels*, to such of her subjects as would undertake the plantation, and defence of them against the incursions of the wild Irish, *Sir Walter Raleigh*, *Sir William Courtenay*, and several other *Devonshire* gentlemen, accepted the offer; and went over to *Ireland*, (accompanied by a number of their tenants and followers, among which were several artificers and tradesmen of *Exeter* with their families) where they planted the county of *Desmond*, and several other places, and laid the foundation of great estates, particularly, *Sir William Courtenay's*, which consists of almost the whole county of *Limerick*, and which is now in the possession of the *Right Honourable Lord Viscount Courtenay*.

A. D.  
1587.

Many Gentlemen of Devon, and inhabitants of Exeter go over to Ireland to settle.

The long projected invasion of this kingdom by the *Spaniards* (for which they had, many years, been making immense preparations) was now about to take place; and the Queen having notice of their intention of soon sailing, she sent orders to all the maritime counties, to embody their militia, and to make every necessary preparation, to defeat the designs of their enemies. These orders being received by the Mayor of this city, he acquainted the citizens, and represented to them the danger they were in, if they did not unanimously oppose the invasion of so cruel and implacable a foe: the citizens immediately put themselves in arms, and joined in an address to the Queen, declaring themselves ever ready to oppose her enemies, and to support the protestant religion at the hazard of their lives and fortunes; assuring her

1588.

The Spanish invasion,

the Queen's order for the citizens to arm themselves.

The citizens address the Queen,

† The dungeon here alluded to, cannot, at this time be ascertained. In the old goal, there was not the least vestige or appearance of any subterranean place of confinement; neither in the castle, if we except the passage (under the walls) to the sally port, commonly termed the dungeon, which was often used as a black hole for punishing soldiers; and a dreadful damp place of confinement it was.



**CHAP. III.** her they were in readiness to march, and join her army whenever wanted.

and fit out  
3 Ships.

By a voluntary contribution, they also fitted out three ships, which were manned, armed and maintained at their own expence, and sent to reinforce the Queen's fleet.

The Queen  
sends a let-  
ter of  
thanks.

The Queen, in a Letter, returned them her most grateful thanks, and granted them the honour of bearing the motto, *Semper Fidelis*, for ever under their city arms; and appointed *John Carpenter, Esq.* to be their muster master.

Force of the  
Spanish  
fleet which  
sailed for  
England.

The Spanish fleet, consisting of 132 sail of large ships, 20 Caravals for conveying their artillery and stores, and 10 small vessels of six oars each; having on board 8,766 sailors, 2,088 galley slaves, 21,855 soldiers and 3,165 pieces of cannon, (these were to be joined by the Prince of *Parma*, on their arrival off the *English coast*, with 30,000 Foot and 1,800 Horse) set sail from *Corunna*; but meeting with a violent storm were obliged to put back; notice of which being obtained by the *English fleet*, then cruising at the mouth of the *British channel*, to intercept their passage, they returned into *Plymouth*: and thinking the danger over for that year, began to dismantle their ships: the *Spaniards*, however, soon repaired their damages, and again set sail for the *English coasts*; but being happily descried by Captain *Winter*, who commanded a small scottish privateer, he hastened to *Plymouth*, and gave notice to the English Commanders, of the approach of the *Spanish fleet*.

The Spa-  
niards ap-  
proach the  
English  
coast,

and sail up  
the chan-  
nel.

The contrary winds prevented the *English fleet* from coming out of harbour, and the *Spaniards* proceeded up the channel, (their fleet being drawn up in the form of a crescent,) and passing *Plymouth*, continued their voyage under a slow and easy sail, in sight of the inhabitants, who were posted in the most accessible parts of the coast, to prevent their descent.

The Devon-  
shire gen-  
tlemen  
exert them-  
selves.

The *English* having, with difficulty, warped their ships out of *Plymouth*, followed them, with a much inferior force: while the gentlemen of *Devonshire* greatly exerted themselves by fitting out all the ships they could procure, and hastening to join the *English fleet*; where they behaved themselves with the greatest intrepidity, and contributed highly to the success which followed.

The Spa-  
niards are  
several  
times de-  
feated,

The Prince of *Parma* was prevented, by the vigilance of the *English* and *Dutch* squadrons, from joining the *Spanish* forces: in consequence of which, and meeting with several defeats, the *Spaniards* endeavoured to escape homewards round the north of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, where so many of their ships were lost, as out of the whole which left *Spain*, only

97 returned, and most of their crews were lost. The loss of the *English* was only one ship and about 100 men; thus the despotic designs of the *Spanish* monarch, to subjugate this nation and extirpate the Protestant religion was frustrated, through the providence of the Almighty, and the bravery of our ancestors.

Among the *Devonshire* worthies, who distinguished themselves on this glorious occasion, were *Sir Francis Drake*, *Sir Martin Forbisher*, *Sir John Hawkins*, *Sir Humphrey Gilbert*, *Sir Walter Raleigh*, *Sir Robert Cary*, Knights; and *Edward Fulford*, Esquire, then Sheriff for the county of *Devon*.

The plague again appeared in this city; it broke out in the month of September, but was not of long continuance, as cold weather commencing, put a stop to its ravages.

The *Serge market*, heretofore kept in *Northgate-street*, was removed, by order of the Chamber, into *Southgate-street*, to be held between *Bear-lane* and the little conduit, as being a more convenient place.

Several of the city Butchers having riotously abused the country Butchers who kept the markets, and forcibly taken the meat from their stalls, were committed to prison for the said offences.

The front of the Guildhall was rebuilt.

This year there was a great scarcity of corn, and the poor of this City being thereby greatly distressed, a sum of money was advanced by the Mayor and Chamber, in order to erect a public granary, and to purchase a quantity of corn to have recourse to, in case of any future exigency.

A pension of 4*l.* per annum was granted to *John Hooker*, as a reward for the services done by his father to this city.

A great fire happening at *Tiverton*, a collection of 10*l.* was here made, and sent to the relief of the poor of that town.

The deep road between the *Wynard's Almshouses* and the Hospital of *St. Mary Magdalen* was filled up and paved.

Another great fire happening at *Tiverton*, which consumed almost the whole town, 100*l.* was collected by the voluntary contributions of the Citizens, and sent as relief.

It was a custom in those days, (after the dissolution of the Monasteries) for men of fortune to take a certain number of young Gentlemen into their families in order to be educated by their Chaplains; some of these young gentlemen, who resided at *Sir William Courtenay's*, at *Powderham castle* were accused of wantonly assaulting and robbing several persons on the road, as they were going to *Exeter market*, for which they were arraigned and tried at the Assizes. *Sir William Courtenay* appearing on the Bench, to speak in their behalf, and insisting

CHAP. II.

return home with great loss.

The Devonshire gentlemen who distinguished themselves.

A. D. 1589.

1591.

1593.

1593.

A scarcity of corn.

1596.

A great fire at Tiverton.

1599.

1601.

Another fire at Tiverton.

1602..

**CHAP. III.** insisting that they did it only by way of a frolick, and that they were able and willing to make any reasonable satisfaction to their accusers, the Judge would not adhere to it, but declared that the law should take its due course: on this, *Sir William Courtenay* insults the Judge on the Bench. *Sir William* rose up in a violent passion, put his hand on his sword, and loudly exclaimed, that *he would make the Judge's shirt red as his scarlet gown,*

*Sir William*, however, reflecting coolly on the outrage he had committed against the person of her Majesty's representative, and fearing the consequences, took horse immediately and rode post to *London*; and falling at her Majesty's feet, he confessed his fault and implored her pardon, which the Queen for some time refused, and ordered him into custody; but having more than ordinary regard for his family, she soon released and pardoned him. †

Queen *Elizabeth* departed this life on the 24th March, 1603; to the great grief of her subjects. She was succeeded by *James*, (the 6th of that name) King of *Scotland*, and the first of *England*.

**MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.**

1559.	Ralph Duckenfield.	John Smith.
<i>Robert Midwinter.</i>	Gilbert Saywell.	Thomas May.
John Paramore Ob.	1562.	Andrew Geer.
John Woolcot.	<i>John Peter.</i>	John Webb.
James Walker.	Edward Bridgman.	1565.
Hubert Colwell.	Philip Yard.	<i>John Woolcott.</i>
William Chapell.	William Grigg.	Robert Chave.
1560.	William Lant.	Thomas Bruerton.
<i>John Blackall.</i>	1563.	Robert Lambell.
John Dyer.	<i>John Peryam.</i>	Alexander Trigg.
Richard Gibbs.	Thos. Richardson.	1566.
Rich. Hazlewood.	George Peryam.	<i>Thomas Richardson.</i>
Jeffery Thomas.	Henry Ellicott.	Simon Knight.
1561.	Richard Prowse.	Nicholas Martin.
<i>William Hurst.</i>	1564.	John Pope.
Hugh Pope.	<i>Morris Lavermore.</i>	Thomas Bird.
Thomas Prestwood		

1567.

† Tradition says, he struck the Judge, and for that reason the family were obliged to bear a bloody hand in their coat of arms: this is a great mistake (the bloody hand, gules, being the arms of *Ulster in Ireland*, and is the badge of distinction of all Barons) neither do I find that any of the family ever made use of that distinction, it being beneath their pretensions, as descendants of the ancient Earls of Devon.

1567.

*John Smith.*  
*William Chapell.*  
*Thomas Martin.*  
*John Hutchins.*  
*John Jones.*

1568.

*Robert Chave.*  
*Edward Lymett.*  
*John Levermore.*  
*Richard Newman.*  
*Roger Robinson.*

1569.

*William Chapell.*  
*Thomas Bruerton.*  
*John Pyle.*  
*William Hunt.*  
*John Collins.*

1570.

*Simon Knight.*  
*William Tryvett.*  
*William Paramore.*  
*Hugh Willsdon.*  
*Walter Jones.*

1571.

*Thomas Bruerton.*  
*Nicholas Martin.*  
*John Dorn.*  
*William Martin.*  
*William Mongwell.*

1572.

*John Peryam, Ob.*  
*John Blackall.*  
*Tho Prestwood.*  
*Thomas Raymond.*  
*Henry James.*  
*Richard Sweet.*

1573.

*William Tryvett.*  
*George Peryman.*  
*John Davy.*

*Alexander Mayne.*  
*Thomas Chapell.*

1574.

*Nicholas Martin.*  
*John Pope.*  
*John Peryam.*  
*John Sandford.*  
*Richard Harding.*

1575.

*John Peter.*  
*Richard Prowse.*  
*George Smith.*  
*Nicholas Spicer.*  
*Richard Beaufitz.*

1576.

*Thos. Prestwood Ob.*  
*Robert Chave.*  
*Thomas Martin.*  
*Thomas Spicer.*  
*Laurence Barcomb.*  
*John Chapell.*

1577.

*George Peryman.*  
*Michael Germyn.*  
*John Hakewill.*  
*John Dodd.*  
*John Field.*

1578.

*Richard Prowse.*  
*Jeffery Thomas.*  
*William Perry.*

*Thos. Turberville.*  
*William Shepherd.*

1579.

*Will. Chapell, Ob.*  
*Simon Knight.*  
*Thomas Raymond.*

*John Applin.*  
*John Brushford.*  
*Peter Vilvain.*

R

1580.

*Thomas Bruerton.*  
*John Davy.*  
*Robert Webber.*  
*John Biggins.*  
*Nich. Carpenter.*

1581.

*Thomas Martin.*  
*John Peryam.*  
*Henry Hull.*  
*Rich. Dorchester.*  
*Henry Sparway.*

1582.

*Michael Germyn.*  
*George Smith.*  
*John Howell.*  
*John Follett.*  
*John Moor.*

1583.

*Jeffery Thomas.*  
*William Martin.*  
*Thomas Walker.*  
*Richard Jourden.*  
*Nicholas Errom.*

1584.

*John Davy.*  
*John Levermore.*  
*John Prowse.*  
*Thomas Bridgman.*  
*Nicholas Spicer.*

1585.

*Nicholas Martin.*  
*Thomas Chapell.*  
*William Spicer.*  
*Gilbert Smith.*  
*Richard Perry.*

1586.

*George Smith.*  
*Nicholas Spicer.*  
*Laurence Seldon.*  
*William*

<u>CHAP. III.</u>	William Brayly. Thomas Edwards.	Walter Body. Alnett Budley.	John Prowse. John Taylor.
	1587.	Richard Wheaton.	Nicholas Langdon. Richard Body.
	<i>John Peryam.</i> Philip Yard. John Ellicott. Jasper Horsey. Roger Selby.	1593. <i>Thomas Spicer.</i> Henry Hull. Alexander Germyn Paul Triggs. Henry Payne.	1599. <i>John Howell.</i> Thomas Edwards. Giles Savery. William Martin. Ignatius Jourden.
	1588. <i>Thomas Chapell.</i> Thomas Spicer. Thomas Radford. Richard Reynolds. Thos. Greenwood.	1594. <i>John Davy.</i> Christopher Spicer. Hugh Crossing. John Lant.	1600. <i>William Martin.</i> John Ellicott. John Lambell. Thomas Snow. Richard Brindley.
	1589. <i>Richard Prowse.</i> John Chapell. Edward Langdon. Walter Horsey. John Payne.	1595. <i>John Chapell.</i> Rich: Dorchester. John Chapell, Jun. Jeffery Waltham. John Eades.	1601. <i>Thomas Walker.</i> Walter Borough. John Sheer. John Marshall. Hugh Morell.
	1590. <i>William Martin.</i> Richard Sweet, Ob. John Howell. Will. Newcombe. Walter Borough. Thos. Baskerville.	1596. <i>John Levermore.</i> Rich. Jourden, Ob. Alexander Mayne. Thomas Blackaller. David Bagwell. Robert Parr.	1602. <i>Richard Beavis, Ob.</i> <i>William Martin.</i> Alexander Germin. Robert Ellicott. Richard Sweet. John Modyford.
	1591. <i>Michael Germyn,</i> Thomas Walker. Jeremy Hilliard. Hillary, Galley. John Deptford.	1597. <i>George Smith.</i> William Spicer. John Sandy. Samuel Alford. William Pope.	1603. <i>Nicholas Spicer.</i> Hugh Crossing. Nicholas Beavis. Oliver Tapper. Robert Hind.
	1592. <i>Nicholas Spicer.</i> Richard Beavis.	1598. <i>John Peryam.</i>	

A. D. 1603. James 1. *James, the first Monarch of England of the house of Stewart, was proclaimed with great solemnity, in this City, on the 29th March, 1603, by the stile and title of King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland.*

The

The plague again visiting this city, the Mayor and Chamber, to prevent the spreading of the infection, provided a Pesthouse for the better relief of the poor people, who might be infected by this dreadful scourge; yet, notwithstanding all their precautions, it spread through the city, and raged with great violence for some time; which prevented *Lammas* and *Magdalen* fairs from being held this year.

The Tower of *St. Sidwell's* church, having been greatly damaged in the late insurrection of the *Devon* and *Cornish* rebels, a contribution was voluntarily raised by the citizens, to defray the expence of rebuilding the same.

Elegant, new silver maces, with the King's arms embossed thereon, was made for the city sergeants.

The dangerous road without *Southgate*, (termed from its deepness, *Holloway*,) was filled up, levelled and paved.

The prices of corn advancing greatly in the markets, a large quantity was procured from abroad, by the contributions of the rich citizens; and this was stored, and retailed to the poor at reduced prices.

*Thomas Tooker*, who had been lately elected sword bearer of this city, being convicted of the murder of his wife, was condemned at the assize, held at the Castle, and executed at *Heavitree* gallows.

The ancient counterscarp of the Castle, (now called *Northernhay*) was levelled, trees planted thereon, benches erected, and a fine gravel walk made, at the expence of the Chamber, for the accommodation of the citizens.

This year, the great *Sir Walter Raleigh*, whose merits as a statesman, soldier, seaman, or historian, can hardly be equalled, fell a sacrifice to the cunning artifices of *Granda-more*, the *Spanish* ambassador.

Sir Walter had been accused of being an accomplice in a pretended plot, in the beginning of this reign; for which he was condemned to die, but strong circumstances appearing in his favour, his execution was deferred, and he was confined a prisoner, under sentence of death, in the tower of *London*, for near 13 years: during this time, he wrote his incomparable *History of the world*.

At length, petitioning the King for his discharge, he was permitted to undertake a voyage to *Guiana* in *South America*, in order to discover, and take possession of some gold mines.

Accordingly, with the broken remains of his fortune, he fitted out three ships, and proceeded on his voyage; but this proving unsuccessful, after a series of misfortunes, and the loss of his only son, he returned home, after an absence of three years.

## CHAP. III.

The plague visits the City.

A pest-house built.

A. D. 1605.

Tower of *St. Sidwell's* rebuilt.

1606.

New city maces made

*Holloway* new paved.

1607.

The poor relieved in a dearth of corn.

1611.

The sword bearer executed for murder.

1612.

*Northernhay* walk made.

1618.

*Sir Walter Raleigh*,

confined 13 years in the tower of *London*,

is permitted to go to *America*,

returns unsuccessful.

CHAP. III.

On his return, his conduct was misrepresented to the weak King, who had been deceived in his hopes of the golden treasure, he expected from the voyage; and *Gundamore* exasperated at the great damages Sir Walter had done the *Spaniards*, in the late Queen's reign (and willing to remove him out of the way) left no measures untried to gratify his revenge: he accordingly represented to the King, that *Sir Walter* had exceeded his commission, and done great damages to his Master's subjects.

Is again  
committed  
prisoner,

and beheaded.

The pusillanimous King commanded him again a prisoner to the Tower; from thence he was removed to the *Gate-house, Westminster*, and ordered to be returned to his former sentence: thus delivered to the Sheriff, he was beheaded in the palace yard, Westminster, and his body buried in *St. Margaret's church*.

Before his execution, he, in a letter to his wife, desired her to beg his body of his enemies, to be interred, either in *Sherborne church*, or with his father, in *Exeter cathedral*; but this small request was not granted: the place of *Sir Walter Raleigh's* birth has been disputed; some placing it at *Budley*, others at *Exeter* in the house adjoining the gate of the Bishop's palace; for the latter there seems some reason, his father residing there many years: but whether a native of *Exeter*, or not, this tribute is justly due to his memory! §

King *James* was the most pacific monarch that had heretofore reigned in this kingdom; and sooner than engage himself in the horrors of war, he submitted to many indignities, which his subjects received from foreign powers; particularly from the *Spaniards* and *Dutch*; the cruelties of the latter to the *English* merchants at *Amboyna*, will be for ever remembered, with a just indignation against a monarch, who tamely suffered his subjects to be cruelly tortured and murdered in cold blood, and by those who, but a few years before, had been delivered from the galling yoke of the *Spaniards*, through the assistance of the late Queen *Elizabeth*, and the valour of the *English* nation.

The woollen trade greatly increased in this city.

However, to give King *James* the praise where it is due, his pacific reign proved very advantageous to his subjects, by increasing their commerce, and encouraging their manufactures, particularly the *Woollen* which was greatly advanced

§ Thus fell the great, and much lamented *Sir Walter Raleigh*, whose unmerited death will ever be a stain, in the annals of the weak *James* the first, for sacrificing the faithful servant of his benefactor and predecessor, to the artful wiles of an intriguing foreigner; and justly may the Satirist say,

(*Rex fuit Elizabeth, nunc est Regina Jacobus*)  
*Elizabeth* was a King; but *James*, a Queen.

ced in this city, and proved a source of wealth, hitherto unknown to the citizens: their trade before this period, being confined mostly to the opposite coasts of *France* and *Germany*; but now it was extended to *Italy*, *Turkey*, and other parts of the *Levant*; and they sent their woollen cloths, in large ships of their own, and brought back the commodities of those countries: thus, many families rose to opulence, and laid the foundation of great estates, which are now enjoyed by their descendants, in the neighbourhood of *Exeter*: they were also concerned in the plantation of the *American* colonies, many families emigrating to *America*, where they built a town which they named *Exeter*, in remembrance of their native city.

The Mayor and Chamber having purchased the late dissolved priory of *St. John*, within *Eastgate*, procured a charter from the King for converting it into an hospital for poor men: they also expended upwards of 400*l.* of their own stock in the necessary repairs of the said hospital.

The King sent down his Letters patent, for renewing the commissions of the Deputy Lieutenants of this city and county.

The plague again visited this city: its beginning here was in the month of July; and it continued its ravages for the space of a year, cutting off whole families, and leaving the city almost destitute of inhabitants.

The plague continuing to rage, *Thomas Walker*, Esq. who had been elected Mayor, refused to take the office, through fear of the disorder, and retired into the country: upon which a petition was sent to the King, who by his Letter, commanded the said Mayor to undertake the office, on his allegiance, which he accordingly did, and executed it to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens.

A Pest house was purchased by the Chamber (in the parish of *St. Sidwell*) for the better accommodation of the poor, who might be infected with the plague: and an order was made by the Justices, for apprehending, and committing to the house of correction, all common beggars that should be found in the streets.

King *James* died on the 27th March, 1625, and was succeeded by his only son, *Charles* the first.

## CHAP. III.

The citizens extend their commerce,

many families enriched thereby.

The town of Exeter built in America.

A. D.

1622.

The Chamber purchase the priory of *St. John*.

1623.

1624.

A great plague almost desolates the city.

1625.

The new Mayor on account of the plague, refuses the office.

Pest-house purchased. All common beggars sent to the house of correction.

King James dies.

## MAYORS



CHAP. III. **MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of JAMES I.**

1604.	Ignatius Jourden.	1617.
<i>John Davy.</i>	Thomas Flay.	<i>Ignat. Jourden.</i>
Wm. Newcombe.	John Jourden.	Peter Colleton.
W. Horsham, Ob.	John Lynn.	Adam Bennet.
John Penny.	1611.	John Hakewill.
Thos. Crossing.	<i>John Lant.</i>	John Savage.
Thos. Richardson.	Thomas Martin.	1618.
1605.	Nicholas Spicer.	<i>Thomas Martin.</i>
<i>Henry Hull.</i>	John Crocker.	John Acland.
John Lant.	John Tirry.	Nicholas Riccroft.
Thos. Martin.	1612.	Roger Yeo.
Edward Clement.	<i>William Newcombe,</i>	Alex. Osborne.
Peter Colleton.	John Modyford.	1619.
1606.	William Mace.	<i>John Prowse.</i>
<i>Richard Dorchester.</i>	Abraham Paul.	George Pyle.
Gilbert Smith.	Anthony Salter.	Walter Wight.
John Gupwill.	1613.	John Pearse.
John Acland.	<i>Jeffery Waltham.</i>	Geo. Langworthy.
George Pyle.	John Gupwill,	1620.
1607.	John Chave.	<i>Hugh Crossing.</i>
<i>Sir Geo. Smith, Kt.</i>	Gilbert Sweet.	John Lynn.
Jeffery Waltham.	James Taylor.	William Skinner.
Robert Parr, Ob.	1614.	Richard Sanders.
Peter Bolt.	<i>Thomas Walker.</i>	Thomas Tooker.
George Leech.	Thomas Crossing.	1621.
Tho. Wakeman.	John Levermore.	<i>Walter Borough.</i>
1608.	George Passmore.	Thos. Wakeman.
<i>John Prowse.</i>	Henry Willet.	Francis Crossing.
John Marshall.	1615.	Henry Battishil.
Thomas Amy.	<i>John Marshall.</i>	John Garland,
Chris. Spicer.	John Taylor.	1622.
John Blight.	Richard Prowse.	<i>John Modyford.</i>
1609.	Hugh Germyn.	Roger Mallock.
<i>Hugh Crossing.</i>	William Bartlett.	Richard Herbert.
John Sheer.	1616.	John Jourden.
William Grigg.	<i>John Sheer.</i>	John Mongwell.
John Hayne.	Thomas Amy.	1623.
William Birdall.	Nicholas Martin.	<i>John Gupwill.</i>
1610.	Christopher Clark.	Nicholas Spicer.
<i>Waller Borough.</i>	William Read.	James

James Tucker.	1624.	Hugh Crocker.	CHAP. III.
John Cooze.	<i>Thomas Crossing.</i>	Nicholas Mercer.	<u>1625.</u>
Tristram Mitchell.	Thomas Flay.	Augustine Drake.	<u>Charles I.</u>

King Charles was proclaimed in this city, March 31st, 1625.

The plague raging in the city of *Salisbury*, a collection was made by the inhabitants of this city, for the relief of the poor of *Salisbury*, which collection, (amounting to a considerable sum) was accordingly sent.

This year, the King renewed the privileges of this city, and granted a new charter, which was not a confirmation only, of their former rights, but an addition thereto: it follows at large, in a faithful translation from the Latin original.

The King grants a new charter to the City of Exeter.

### CHARTER.

Charles, by the grace of God, King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, to all whom these presents shall come, greeting.

“ *Whereas* divers of our most illustrious ancestors, or predecessors, late Kings and Queens of *England*, have (of their special grace and royal favour, shewn towards their beloved subjects, the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the city of *Exeter*, and towards the public good of the same city: and also in consideration of the approved allegiance and faithful services, which they, the said Mayor, bailiffs and commonalty have, from time to time, done to the said Kings and Queens, and to the crown of *England*, particularly in the reign of our ancestor, the Lord *Henry* the seventh, late King of *England*; and also in the reign of *Edward* the sixth, late King of *England*, by most faithfully adhering to the said King in the time of commotion, and the insurrection and rebellion of his most ungrateful and unfaithful subjects, in divers parts of this kingdom of *England*, in the counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*; and by boldly resisting the said rebels, and by defending the said city of *Exeter*, and the court of the said King against their most violent attacks, and against those who were continually besieging and blockading [them,] for a long time, and in a warlike manner, and with a great number of people, not only to the great cost, expence and burthen of the said mayor, bailiffs and commonalty of the said city, but also the great hazard and loss of their lives, and distress for want of provisions, before the said late King with his arms and warlike forces arrayed against them, could raise the said siege) *Granted* and confirmed

Preamble and consideration.

N. B. The words between crotchets [thus] are added by the translator to complete the sense.

CHAP. III.	“ ed divers liberties, usages, privileges, franchises, jurisdictions, and other things, by several charters, or letters patent ; ”
Further Preamble.	<p>“ <i>And whereas</i> we are informed, that there are some defects and uncertainties in the said charters and letters patent, <i>in respect</i> that some things therein contained, for the good government, rule, and advantage of our said city of <i>Exeter</i>, and the county of the said city, were not plainly expressed, nor granted in words sufficiently apt and proper ; and moreover the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city have most humbly besought us, that we would (as far as we shall think proper) manifest and extend our royal grace and favour in this behalf, for explaining, and reducing to certainty the defects, uncertainties, and doubts of the said charters and letters patent ; <i>and also for an addition</i> of certain liberties, franchises and privileges, in such manner as shall seem best by us to be done : ”</p>
Grant extent of the City and County as formerly.	<p>“ <i>We, therefore</i>, weighing the premises, and also the allegiance, obedience and, faithful services of the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, continued from time to time to the crown of <i>England</i>, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, <i>and of our own mere motives</i>, have willed, ordained, granted, and constituted, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do will, ordain, grant and constitute, that our said city of <i>Exeter</i>, and the county of the said city, and the circuit, jurisdiction, and precincts, of the same, may from henceforth be, and may extend and stretch themselves, and may extend and reach, as well in length as breadth, as in circuit and precinct, to such and the like, and the same bounds, metes and limits, <i>and in the same manner as</i> the said city of <i>Exeter</i>, and the county of the same, and the circuit and precincts, and jurisdiction thereof, might extend, or reach at any time before the date of these presents. ”</p>
Principal reasons for granting a new charter	<p>“ <i>And moreover</i>, that all and singular disputes, inconveniences, and litigations, in or about the election of the Mayor, the four bailiffs, the twenty-four of the common council, and the four sergeants at mace of the said city, may be entirely taken away, and that all popular tumult may be avoided, and for making a peaceable and quiet election in that behalf, of our more abundant special grace and certain knowledge, and of our own mere motion, we have willed, ordained, granted, constituted and established, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, we will, ordain, grant, constitute and establish, that for ever hereafter, there may and shall be twenty-four of the most discreet, and <i>substantial</i> citizens of the common council of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">“ said</p>
Of the Common Council.  are removable.	

" said city for the term of their lives; and that none of them  
 " shall be amoved, unless it be for poverty, sickness, old age,  
 " or some other reasonable cause; which cause shall be ad-  
 " judged and determined by the residue of the said twenty-  
 " four of the common council of the said city, or the major  
 " part of them; in which cases, we will and declare by these  
 " presents, that any or either of the said twenty-four of the  
 " said common council are from time to time amoveable,  
 " by the residue of them, or the major part of them, for those  
 " causes, so allowed:

" And that after the decease or amotion of any or either  
 " of such twenty-four, of the common council of the said ci-  
 " ty, in form aforesaid, the rest of the said twenty-four, or  
 " the major part of them, having notice, and being present,  
 " shall, within a convenient time, after such death or amo-  
 " tion, elect and choose one, or more, other person or per-  
 " sons, of the most substantial and discreet citizens, and free-  
 " men of the said city, to fill up the said number of twenty-  
 " four of the common council of the said city according to  
 " the custom used in our city of London, for the election of 24  
 " aldermen there; "

" And moreover, for the better execution of our will and Appoints a  
 " grant in this behalf, We have assigned, nominated, con- common-  
 " stituted, and made, and, by these presents, for us, council.  
 " our heirs and successors, do assign, nominate consti-  
 " tute, and make our beloved and trusty John Ackland, Esq.  
 " the present mayor of our said city of Exeter; and our be-  
 " loved Thomas Walker, Walter Burrowe, Ignatius Jourden,  
 " John Modyford, Thomas Crossing, and John Taylor, al-  
 " dermen of the same city; and George Pyle, John Lynn,  
 " John Jourden, Nicholas Spicer, Thomas Flay, Nicholas Mar-  
 " tin, John Hakewill, Gilbert Sweet, John Crocker, George  
 " Passmore, Francis Crossing, Adam Bennett, Roger Mallack,  
 " James Tucker, John Hayne, John Penny, and Richard San-  
 " ders, merchants and freemen of the said city, to be the first  
 " and present twenty-four of the common council of the said  
 " city; to continue in that office or place, during their natu-  
 " ral lives, unless in the mean time they, or either of them,  
 " shall for any cause be amoved as aforesaid. And further, Election of  
 " we will, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and suc- the Mayor.  
 " cessors, do grant unto the said mayor, bailiffs and com-  
 " monalty, and to their successors, that it shall and may be  
 " lawful for the Mayor of our city of Exeter for the time  
 " being, together with his brethren and the rest of the com-  
 " monalty of the same city (being freemen of the said city)  
 " yearly, on every Monday next before the feast of St.

S

" Michael

- CHAP. III.** “ Michael the Archangel, to meet together and assemble themselves at the Guildhall of the said city; and then and there the said twenty-four of the common-council, or *the major part of them*, being present, may and shall, upon their oaths, appoint and nominate (by their *secret votes*, to be taken privately and separately by the recorder and common-clerk of the said city for the time being, or by their deputies, and upon their oaths to be collected and computed) two of the best and *most substantial* citizens of the said twenty-four of the said common-council; (that is to say) of those who have been before approved in the office of Mayor or receiver of the said city (except the Mayor for the time being;) of which two, one shall be chosen Mayor of the said city for the year then next following. *And*, that the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, being present, shall and may at the same time elect (as well out of the said twenty-four, as of the rest of the best and most substantial citizens and inhabitants within our city, being freemen of the said city, and of good name and reputation) four bailiffs of the said city, for the year then next following; of whom one may and shall be receiver of the said city. *And* that the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, being present, may on the same day elect, according to their discretion, three sergeants at mace, out of the freemen of the said city, who may best perform and attend upon their office. *And* after such scrutiny, nomination, and election shall have been so made and had by the said twenty-four, or the major part of them, being present, the recorder and common clerk of the said city for the time being, or one of them, shall declare and publish to the commonalty of the said city (being freemen of the said city) the names of those two who shall have been nominated by the major part of the votes of the said twenty-four in the scrutiny aforesaid, for the office of mayor of the said city, for the year then following. *And* that the said commonalty shall choose one of the said two to be Mayor of the said city, for one year then next following. *And* that he who shall have the major part of the votes of the freemen of the said city shall be *placed in* and admitted to the office of Mayor of the said city. *And* after this is done, the said recorder and common clerk, or one of them, shall shew and present to the commonalty of the said city, in the presence of the said twenty-four of the common-council of the said city, *being present*, the names of all the other officers elected for the following year. *And* that yearly, and in every year for ever, the said citizen so elected
- “ Mayor,
- Of the four Bailiffs.
- Of the recorder.
- Of the three sergeants at mace.
- Declaration of the two persons named by the twenty-four and the election of one of them to be mayor by the freemen.
- Declaration of the other officers.

“ Mayor, and all the said other officers, elected in manner CHAP. III.  
 “ and form aforesaid, and every of them, shall, upon Mon-  
 “ day next after such assembling, election, and publication Swearing of  
 “ in the Guildhall of the said city, at the court there to be held the mayor  
 “ before the judges of the same court for the time being, ac- and other  
 “ cording to the ancient usage and laudable custom of our officers.  
 “ said city of Exeter, take their corporal oaths, upon the holy  
 “ Evangelists of God, well and faithfully to execute their offi-  
 “ ces respectively. And that they be so respectively elected,  
 “ placed, and sworn into those offices for one whole year then  
 “ next following, according to the usage and custom aforesaid.  
 “ And that the said Mayor, after he shall have been sworn The mayor  
 “ in form aforesaid, shall nominate and choose one able citi- to appoint  
 “ zen, and a freeman of the said city, to be the fourth ser- the fourth  
 “ geant at mace of the said city, according to the ancient sergeant at  
 “ custom of the said city. And that, in case of the death mace.  
 “ or amotion of the Mayor, bailiffs, or sergeants at mace, In case of  
 “ or of any or either of them, one or more other person or death or a-  
 “ persons, shall, within a convenient time after such death motion, o-  
 “ or amotion, be elected in manner and form as aforesaid, thers to be  
 “ into the place, or places, of him, or them, so happening chosen.  
 “ to die or be amoved, to continue in those offices respective-  
 “ ly during the residue of the year then unexpired; and they  
 “ shall also be sworn as is before appointed. And further we  
 “ will, and do, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs Recorder  
 “ and successors, grant to the said Mayor, bailiffs, and com- and town-  
 “ monalty of the said city, and to their successors; and clerk, &c.  
 “ we also do appoint and ordain, that the nomination, elec- to be cho-  
 “ tion, and swearing of the recorder and common-clerk, sen, &c. as  
 “ shall and may from thenceforth for ever be done, made, and usual for-  
 “ had, on the same days, in the same places, and at the merly.  
 “ same time, and in such manner and form as hath been  
 “ heretofore, by ancient custom in the said city, in lawful  
 “ manner used and approved.

“ And moreover, we will, and do, by these presents, for Such as re-  
 “ ourselves, our heirs and successors, grant to the said May- fuse to ex-  
 “ or, bailiffs, and commonalty of the city of Exeter, and ecute offices  
 “ to their successors, that if any person or persons of the to which  
 “ common-council, or of the rest of the citizens and free- they are e-  
 “ men of the said city (whether he or they shall be residing lected, may  
 “ or abiding within or without the said city, or the county of be fined,  
 “ the same city, the liberties, or precincts thereof) who imprisoned  
 “ shall hereafter have been nominated or elected into the of- and disfran-  
 “ fice of Mayor, or bailiff, or into the number of twenty- chised, by  
 “ four of the common-council, or into the office of sheriff, the com-  
 “ coroner, or constable, or into any other inferior office or mon coun-  
 “ place cil.

- CHAP. III. " place of the said city, or any or either of them (the office of recorder and common-clerk of the said city being excepted) and having notice and *knowledge* of that election and nomination shall *refuse*, \*
- " that office, or those offices to which he or they, so refusing, shall have been elected and nominated; that then, and so often, it shall and may be lawful for the said twenty-four of the common-council of the said city for the time being, or the major part of them, to commit to the gaol of the said city such person, or persons so refusing to execute that office, or those offices, to which he, or they, shall have been so elected or nominated; there to remain until he or they, shall be willing to execute such office, or offices : And *to tar*, and to impose fines, and amercements upon such recusant, or recusants, as shall in reason seem expedient to the said twenty-four of the common-council for the time being, or the major part of them; and that they may and shall detain (*in gaol*) such person, or persons, so refusing and committed, or to be committed, to the gaol of the said city for the time being, until he, or they, shall have fully paid, or caused to be paid, those fines or amercements to the public use of the said city; and, if it shall seem expedient to the said twenty-four of the common-council of the said city for the time being, or to the major part of them, *to disfranchise*, expel, and amove him, or them, from the liberties and franchises of the said city. And also we do, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, constitute and ordain, by these presents, that, as well every person so as aforesaid refusing to undertake his office in form aforesaid, as every other person who shall disturb, hinder, or *oppose*, contrary to the tenor of these presents, these our ordinances concerning the election of the said officers, any or either of them, or shall, at the time of making such elections, be guilty, either by words or deeds, of any insolence, disturbance, or breach of peace, shall incur the penalty of the high displeasure of us, our heirs and successors."
- Power to make bye-laws.
- " *We have moreover granted*, and, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, and to their successors for ever, that if any customs, which have hitherto obtained and been used in the said city, are in any respect *difficult* or defective, or in any respect happening *de novo*, for which no remedy hath been before appointed,
- Difficultes*, not clear and plain.

\* It seems as if the word [*exercere*] to execute, was here omitted.

“ ed, shall stand in need of amendment, then the said twenty-four of the common-council of the said city for the time being, or major part of them (of whom we would the mayor of the said city, for the time being, should be one) may, when and as often as it shall seem most expedient to them, appoint and ordain by their common assent, a proper remedy, agreeable to good faith and reason, for the common advantage and government of the citizens and inhabitants of the same city, and others our subjects resorting to the same; so as such ordinances be profitable to us and to our people, and agreeable to good faith and reason as is aforesaid, and so as they are not repugnant to the royal prerogative of us, our heirs and successors, nor contrary to the laws and statutes of our kingdom of England then being in force.

CHAP. III.

“ *And whereas* the Lord Henry the Eighth, late King of England, by his letters patent, sealed with the great seal of England, bearing date, at Westminster, on the twenty-third day of August, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, granted, amongst other things, for himself, his heirs and successors, to the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, and their successors, *that* the Mayor and recorder of the county of that city, and each of the other eight aldermen who had borne, supported, or sustained, or then after might bear and support the burden of the Mayoralty of the said city, and their successors, as long as they should be aldermen of the said city, should be justices and keepers of the peace of the said late King, his heirs and successors, every where within the county of the said city, and the precincts and liberties thereof, as well within the liberties as without, in every place within the boundaries and limits of the county of the said city. *And that* they, the Mayor, recorder, and eight other aldermen of the said county of the city of Exeter, or three of them (of whom the Mayor and recorder for the time being were, *by all means*, to be two) should from henceforth, for ever, be justices of the said late King, his heirs and successors, there to enquire of, hear, and determine all and singular such and the like felonies, trespasses, and other misdeeds, from thenceforth to be committed and perpetrated, within the same county of the city of Exeter, and the liberties thereof, happening, as well within the liberties as without, and in the same manner as the justices of the said late King assigned to keep the peace of the county of Devon, could or might enquire of, hear, and determine, by virtue of the commission of the said King directed to them, and by

Recital of the letters patent 29 H. 8. with respect to the justices of the peace and gaol-delivery.

First assignment.

Second assignment.



- CHAP. III.** “ force and authority of the laws of this kingdom of Eng-  
 “ land. *And* that the same Mayor, recorder, and aldermen,  
 Gaol deli- “ or three of them (of whom the said Mayor and recorder,  
 very. “ for the time being were by all means to be two) should be  
 “ justices of the said late King, his heirs and successors, to  
 “ deliver the gaol of the said county of the city of Exeter,  
 “ from time to time, as often as there should be occasion, of  
 “ the prisoners then being therein, according to the law and  
 “ usage of the kingdom of England. *And* for the doing  
 “ and performing divers other things, for the keeping the  
 “ peace of the said late King, his heirs, and successors,  
 “ within the county of the said city, and the liberties there-  
 “ of, as well within the liberties as without, in the said let-  
 Justices of “ ters patent more fully and especially set forth; so that  
 the county “ neither the justices and keepers of the peace of the said late  
 of Devon “ King, his heirs and successors, nor the justices of him his  
 not to inter- “ heirs and successors assigned or to be assigned to enquire  
 meddle. “ of, hear, and determine, divers felonies, trespasses, and  
 “ other misdemeanors, nor the sheriff, coroner, escheator,  
 “ nor any other justice of the said late King, his heirs and  
 “ successors, of the said county of Devon, nor either of  
 “ them, should *enter* within the county of the said city and  
 “ the liberties thereof, on account of any thing, causes,  
 “ complaints, matters, defaults, or *articles* belonging or ap-  
 “ pertaining to the justices of the peace of the said late King,  
 “ his heirs and successors, or to the justices of the said late  
 “ King, his heirs and successors assigned, or to be assigned,  
 “ to enquire of, hear, and determine divers felonies, tres-  
 Recital of “ passes, and other misdemeanors; nor should they, or  
 some in- “ either of them, in any manner, on any account, *intrude*  
 conveni- “ themselves there, in respect thereof, as by the said letters  
 ences in “ patent particularly and more fully appeareth. *And where-*  
 the “ *as* also it may happen, that the Mayor and recorder of the  
 charter of “ said city (who alone are appointed justices of the quorum  
 Henry 8. “ by the said letters patent) or one of them, being prevented  
 “ by sickness or infirmity, or some other unavoidable cause,  
 “ may not be able to attend the necessary business of the said  
 “ city, so that the rest of the justices cannot proceed in hold-  
 “ ing the sessions for the said city and county thereof, to the  
 “ furtherance of the service of the public there in the absence  
 “ of the said Mayor and recorder, or one of them, to the de-  
 “ fect of justice, or the impunity of offenders: *we* (being  
 Remedy. “ willing to apply a remedy in this behalf, and that our peace  
 “ may be the better kept, and that all other *acts of justice*  
 “ may be there in all future times performed duly and at  
 “ their *proper seasons*, and may remain firm and established)  
 “ of

" of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge, and **CHAP. III.**  
 " our own mere motion, *have granted*, and by these presents,  
 " for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said **The Mayor,**  
 " Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, and to **recorder, &**  
 " their successors, *that* the Mayor, recorder, and aldermen **aldermen to**  
 " of the said city for the time being, in all times to come, **be justices.**  
 " may and shall be justices, and every of them shall be a **First assign-**  
 " justice, of us, our heirs and successors, for the preserving **ment.**  
 " and keeping, and causing to be preserved and kept, the  
 " peace of us, our heirs and successors, within the city of  
 " Exeter, and the county of the city of Exeter, and within  
 " the limits, liberties and precincts of the said city and county  
 " thereof, as well within the liberties as without. *And also* **Labourers,**  
 " for the *correcting* [*offences against*] preserving and keeping, **weights and**  
 " and causing to be corrected [*offences against*] the statutes **measures.**  
 " concerning artificers and labourers, weights and measures  
 " within the said city, and the county of the same city, and  
 " within the limits, liberties, and precincts aforesaid. *And* **General**  
 " for the doing of all other things which do belong, or which **words.**  
 " hereafter shall belong, to be done by justices assigned to keep  
 " the peace. *And* that the said Mayor, recorder, and aldermen, **Second as-**  
 " so as aforesaid made and constituted, or to be made and **ignment**  
 " constituted, *justices* of the peace, by virtue of these pre- **Sessions.**  
 " sents, or any three or more of them (of whom we would  
 " that any [two] of the said Mayor, recorder, and two *first* **Quorum,**  
 " *and senior* aldermen of the said city for the time being, **by seniority**  
 " should be two) may and shall appoint, hold, and keep the **of election.**  
 " sessions of the peace, in the same manner and form as any  
 " other justices assigned, or to be assigned, to keep the peace  
 " or to hear and determine misdeeds or trespasses, in any  
 " counties of England, can or may now or hereafter. *And*  
 " that they shall have full power and authority to enquire of  
 " all offences, *crimes*, defaults, and *articles* whatsoever, done,  
 " *promoted*, or committed, or hereafter to be done, promoted,  
 " or committed, within the said city and county of the said  
 " city, and within the liberties, limits, and precincts of them  
 " or either of them. *And* to do and execute all other things  
 " there, which keepers and justices of the peace, in any  
 " county of our kingdom of England, can and may, or in  
 " future shall and may, enquire of, do, or execute, by the  
 " laws and statutes of the said kingdom of England, as  
 " justices of the peace, or as justices assigned, or to be assign-  
 " ed, to hear and determine felonies, trespasses, and other  
 " misdemeanors committed within any county, or any city,  
 " town, or borough incorporate within this kingdom of  
 " England: so that no other justice or justices assigned, or  
 " to

- CHAP. III.** “to be assigned, to keep the peace of us, our heirs and successors, shall, by virtue or pretence of any commission, or of any association or otherwise, by any means, in any manner, intrude himself, or themselves, to make, do, or order any matter or things within the said city, or the county of the same city, or within the liberties, limits, or precincts thereof, which do or shall respect or belong to justices of the peace, so assigned to keep the peace, there.
- Foreign justices not to intrude.** “*We will also*, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, and to their successors, that the mayor, recorder, and aldermen of the said city for the time being, or three or more of them (of whom we would that the mayor and recorder of the said city for the time being, should be two) may, from time to time for ever, be justices of us, our heirs and successors, to deliver our gaol of our said city of Exeter, and county of the city, of the prisoners being therein from time to time, according to the laws, customs, and statutes of our kingdom of England. *And* that the sheriff and coroner of the said county for the time being shall make return of all juries, inquisitions, pannels, attachments, and indentures taken, or hereafter to be taken, by them, before the said mayor, recorder, and aldermen of the said city for the time being, or any three or more of them (of whom we will that the mayor and recorder of the said city for the time being, in form aforesaid, should be two) from time to time, when and as often as they shall have *determined* to deliver the gaol of the prisoners being in the same gaol: *and* shall be attendant upon them in every thing concerning the delivery of the said gaol: *and* shall from time to time execute the precepts of them, the mayor, recorder, and aldermen of the said city for the time being, or of any such three or more of them, as aforesaid, in the same manner and form as any sheriffs or coroners, within our kingdom of England, have been accustomed and ought to do, return, *attend upon*, or execute before justices assigned, or to be assigned, to deliver the gaol in any other counties in the kingdom of us, our heirs and successors, in any manner whatsoever, by the laws and statutes of this our kingdom of England. *And* that the said Mayor, recorder, and aldermen of the said city for the time being, or any or either of them, may, by themselves, or by their officers or deputies, take and arrest all murderers, *persons accused of homicide*, felons, thieves, and other malefactors found, or to be found, within the said city, suburbs, liberties, and precincts
- Goal delivery.**
- Quorum.**
- Sheriff and coroner to be attendant on the gaol delivery.**
- Shall execute precepts.**
- Power to commit murderers, felons, &c.**

“ precincts thereof, and within the county of the said city, CHAP. III.  
 “ and shall cause them to be safe kept there until they shall  
 “ be delivered by due course of law; any other ordinance,  
 “ decree, order, or custom in any wise notwithstanding: *so* Not to de-  
 “ that neither they, nor either of them, shall in any manner termine  
 “ hereafter proceed to the determination of any treason, or treason, &c.  
 “ misprision of treason, within the said city, liberties or pre- without the  
 “ cincts thereof, or within the county of the said city, with- royal man-  
 “ out the special mandate of us, our heirs and successors. date.

“ *And moreover*, of our more abundant grace, and for the Grant of  
 “ support and *improvement* of our said city of Exeter, we have fines &c-  
 “ granted, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and  
 “ successors, do grant to the said Mayor, bailiffs, and com-  
 “ monalty of the said city, that they and their successors, from  
 “ *henceforth* for ever, shall have all and all manner of fines  
 “ forfeited, and to be forfeited, *redemptions*, issues, and for-  
 “ feitures, as well real as not real, recognizances forfeited  
 “ and to be forfeited, and all forfeitures and amercements  
 “ whatsoever (although we, our heirs or successors, shall  
 “ be parties) for trespasses, oppressions, extortions, deceits,  
 “ conspiracies, concealments, regrating, forestalling, main-  
 “ tenance, ambidexters, *forgeries*, escapes, neglects, felo-  
 “ nies, misprisions, and all crimes and misdemeanors what-  
 “ soever, and all fines pro licentia concordandi; and all  
 “ and all manner of amercements, redemptions, fines, issues  
 “ forfeited, real and not real, chattels of felons of themselves,  
 “ of fugitives, and of those put in the exigent, deodands  
 “ treasure-trove, *forfeited*, and all and all manner of forfei-  
 “ tures, as well by all writs, precepts, *bills*, and mandates  
 “ of us, our heirs and successors, and every thing which  
 “ may or ought to belong to us or our heirs, by the laws or  
 “ statutes of this kingdom of England, arising, or hereafter  
 “ to arise, by reason of any murders, *escapes of felons happen-*  
 “ *ing through negligence*, rapes of women, from all kinds of  
 “ felonies, and from any other cause whatsoever, within the  
 “ county of the said city, which are [prosecuted] either at  
 “ the suit of us, our heirs and successors, or at the suit of  
 “ another, or himself, or at the suit of another who [sues]  
 “ as well for us, our heirs and successors, as for himself,  
 “ and happening or arising of and from all and singular  
 “ the subjects of us, our heirs and successors, abiding or  
 “ residing within the county of the said city for the time  
 “ being, in any courts or court of us, our heirs or succe-  
 “ ssors; or before us, our heirs and successors, wheresoever  
 “ we or they shall be in England; or before us, our heirs  
 “ and successors, in the chancery of us, our heirs and suc-  
 “ cessors

- CHAP. III.** "cessors; or before the treasurer and barons of the ex-  
 "chequer of us, our heirs and successors; or before the  
 "barons of the exchequer of us, *our* heirs and successors;  
 "or before the justices of us, our heirs or successors, [*as-*  
 "*signed*] *to hold pleas* before us, our heirs or successors; or  
 "before the justices of us, our heirs or successors, of the  
 "common bench; or before the steward and marshall of the  
 "household of us, our heirs or successors; or before the  
 "coroner of the household of us, our heirs or successors;  
 "or before the clerk of the market of us, our heirs or suc-  
 "cessors, for the time being; or before the justices in eyre  
 "of us, our heirs or successors, assigned to hear and deter-  
 "mine the common pleas of our crown; or before the jus-  
 "tices of us our heirs or successors, assigned, or to be as-  
 "signed, to hear and determine felonies, treasons, murders,  
 "trespasses, oppressions, *excesses*, or any other grievances  
 "and misdemeanors, as well at the suit of us and our heirs,  
 "as of any other person or persons; [or before] our justices,  
 "assigned, or to be assigned, to take assizes, *juries*, certi-  
 "ficates, and any other inquisitions, or to deliver a gaol;  
 "or [before] justices, or keepers of the peace of us, our  
 "heirs or successors, assigned, or to be assigned, to cause  
 "to be kept the statutes and ordinances concerning artificers,  
 "labourers, servants, workmen, victuallers, forestallers, and  
 "concerning weights and measures; *as before* any other jus-  
 "tices, officers, and ministers of us, our heirs or successors,  
 "as well in the presence as in the absence of us, our heirs or  
 "successors, wheresoever it shall happen that such sub-  
 "ject of us, our heirs or successors, or either of them,  
 "within the said county of the said city of Exeter, *or their*  
 "*successors*, or either of them, shall be adjudged to make  
 "fines, to be amerced, to forfeit issues, to forfeit recog-  
 "nizances, [to incur] forfeitures on [account] of escapes of  
 "felons happening through negligence, murders, or other  
 "felonies, although we ourselves, our heirs or succes-  
 "sors, or any of us, should be a party or parties *thereto*;  
 "and although any other person or persons shall have pro-  
 "secuted for himself, or themselves; which said fines, issues,  
 "amerceaments, recognizances, forfeitures in respect of es-  
 "capes of felons, murders, felonies, being forfeited, ought  
 "to belong to our heirs and successors, if they had not  
 "been granted by these presents to the said Mayor, bailiffs,  
 "and commonalty of the said city, and their successors:  
 "And that it shall be lawful for the said Mayor, bailiffs,  
 "and commonalty of the said city, and their successors, for  
 "ever, by the said bailiffs and sheriffs, or their officers, to  
 "levy,

King's  
Bench.

Common  
Pleas.

They who  
shall suc-  
ceed them.

To the  
suit.

“levy, collect, take, and have all the said fines, amercements, redemptions, issues, recognizances, forfeitures made, or to be made, and every thing which can or may belong to us, our heirs or successors, from the said murders, felonies, escapes, and other premises; and to put themselves in possession thereof, to the use and benefit of the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and their successors, without the challenge, impeachment, or hindrance of us, our heirs or successors; or of any justices, officers, or ministers of us, our heirs or successors; or of any other justices, escheators, sheriffs, coroners, mayors, bailiffs, constables, ministers of us, our heirs or successors; although the said subjects of us, our heirs or successors, or either of them, their, or either of their, pledges, manucaptors or bail, or either of them shall hold [lands] of us, our heirs or successors, or of any other person or persons, within the said county of our said city of Exeter, or elsewhere; and although the said subjects of us, our heirs and successors, or any of them, shall be bailiffs, officers, or ministers of us, our heirs and successors, or of the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty, and their successors, or of any other person; and also, although the said pledges, manucaptors or bail, or either of them, shall dwell or inhabit within the said county of the city of Exeter, or out of the said county.”

Persons  
fined, &c.

“And moreover, we have granted, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, for ever, that neither the treasurer, chancellor, nor barons of the exchequer of us, our heirs or successors, nor any nor either of them, shall, for the future, make any process against any justice of the peace of us, our heirs or successors, of the said county of our city of Exeter, nor against any justices of us, our heirs or successors, assigned or to be assigned, to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors, committed, and to be committed, within the said county of the said city of Exeter, and the liberties thereof; nor against any or either of them, for the sending or delivering into the exchequer of us, our heirs or successors, any estreats of their sessions there made, or hereafter to be made: but we will and grant, by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, that all and singular such justices of us, our heirs and successors, and every of them, shall for ever, by these presents, be exonerated as against us, our heirs and successors, from the delivery of

No process  
from the  
exchequer  
to return  
estreats.

Issue.

So far as we  
are con-  
cerned.

T 2

“such

**CHAP. HI.** “such estreats of their sessions, to be made for the future as aforesaid.

**Statute merchant.** “*And whereas* in our said city of Exeter and the county or

**The recovery of debts.**

**The Mayor and clerk.**

**The seal for the recognizances**

“or the said city, and in the parts adjacent, many merchants and clothiers do reside, *in respect* of whose daily commerce and traffic there, it would much conduce to the public good of the said city, and the better expediting [the business] of our subjects living in those parts, and resorting thither, in their mercantile contracts and agreements, that the mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, and their successors, should have the power to recognizance between merchant and merchant, and *to make* executions thereupon, according to the statutes de mercatoribus, and the statutes lately enacted at Acton-Burnel, in like manner as in other cities, boroughs, and towns corporate of less eminence, hath been long since granted and established: *we*, graciously consenting to the common advantage of our said city of Exeter, and of the public good and benefit of our subjects in those parts, *will*, and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, of our more abundant special grace, certain knowledge, and our own mere motion, do grant to the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and to their successors, that the Mayor of the said city for the time being, and the clerk (to be appointed in manner and form hereafter in these presents expressed or mentioned, for the taking *and sealing* the recognizances of debt, according to the form of the statutes de mercatoribus, and of the statute lately made at Acton-Burnel) shall have, for ever, full power and authority to take and receive all recognizances, and to make executions thereupon, according to the form of the statute de mercatoribus, and of the statute lately made at Acton-Burnel; and also, to do and execute all other things within the said city, and the county of the said city, which doth, or can, or may belong, by force of the said statutes, or of either of them, to any Mayor, sheriff, bailiff, or other officer, and to any clerk, or either of them, appointed to [take] recognizances of debts, according to the form of the said statutes, or of either of them, in any city or borough incorporate, within these our kingdom of England. *And that* the Mayor and clerk for the time being may and shall have, and, by force of these presents, shall make, take, and use one seal of two pieces (of which one part shall be the greater part, and the other part the lesser part) for the sealing the said recognizances, to be hereafter acknowledged before them, according to the form of the said statute de mercatoribus,

“mercatoribus, and of the statute lately made at Acton-Bur-  
 “nel; which said seal shall be, and shall be called, from  
 “henceforth for ever, The King’s Seal, for the sealing re-  
 “cognizances, to be taken within our said city of Exeter;  
 “of which said seal the greater part shall always remain in  
 “the custody of the Mayor of the said city for the time being,  
 “and the other part of the said seal shall be and remain always  
 “in the hands and custody of the clerk for the time being,  
 “deputed and appointed to write and enroll the said recogni-  
 “zances, according to the intent of these our letters patent.  
 “*And that* the common-clerk of the said city for the time be-  
 “ing, may and shall be, as long as he shall continue in that  
 “office, the clerk of us, our heirs and successors, to take,  
 “write, and enroll the recognizances of debts, accord ng to  
 “the form of the said statutes, or either of them, within the  
 “city and the county of the said city, and the liberties, li-  
 “mits, and precincts thereof; and to preserve and keep the  
 “rolls, memorandums, and records thereof, and to keep  
 “the lesser piece of the said seal; and to do and execute all  
 “other things which belong to any clerk appointed [*to take*]  
 “recognizances of debts, to do and execute according to the  
 “form of the said statutes, or either of them.

Common-  
 clerk to be  
 clerk of the  
 recognizances.

“*And we* do, for us, our heirs and successors, make, or-  
 “dain, and constitute, and, by these presents, without any  
 “writ to be obtained in this behalf, and without any other  
 “election to be made, the said common-clerk of the said  
 “city, the clerk of us, our heirs and successors, to take,  
 “write, and enroll the recognizances of debts within the  
 “said city, according to the form of the said statutes, and  
 “either of them, and to keep the lesser part of the said seal;  
 “and, moreover, to do and execute all other things which  
 “belong to any clerk appointed to *take* recognizances of  
 “debts, to do and execute, according to the form of the said  
 “statutes, and either of them.”

The ap-  
 pointment.

“*And whereas*, also, divers lands, tenements, and heredita-  
 “ments have been heretofore given and granted to certain  
 “feoffees and trustees, for the fulfilling several good and  
 “pious uses within the said city, and county of the said city;  
 “which said feoffees desire to place such lands, tenements,  
 “and hereditaments in the hands of the said Mayor, bailiffs,  
 “and commonalty of our said city of Exeter, for the better  
 “security of the said lands, tenements, and hereditaments,  
 “and for the better disposing and governing the same, ac-  
 “cording to the laudable intention of the first and original  
 “donors thereof, *we*, graciously approving such good de-  
 “sires, of our especial grace, and of our certain knowledge;

Feoffees to  
 charitable  
 uses may  
 grant the  
 lands to the  
 twenty-four

“and





" heirs and successors, as from any other the subjects and  
 " liege people of us, our heirs and successors, or of any  
 " other persons whomsoever, any manors, messuages, tene-  
 " ments, rectories, tythes, rents, *reservations*, services, and  
 " other possessions and hereditaments (which are not held of  
 " us, our heirs and successors in capite, nor by Knight's  
 " service, nor of any other person or persons not consenting  
 " by Knight's service) not exceeding in the whole the yearly  
 " value of one hundred pounds over and above all charges  
 " and reprisals; and besides all manors, lands, tenements,  
 " and hereditaments heretofore granted to the said Mayor,  
 " bailiffs, and commonalty, or to their predecessors, by any  
 " or either of our ancestors or predecessors, late Kings or  
 " Queens of England; and besides all other lands, tene-  
 " ments, and hereditaments, which they or their predeces-  
 " sors have heretofore purchased, or which they or their  
 " successors can or may hereafter purchase, by virtue, force,  
 " or pretence of any other charters or letters patent, [granted]  
 " by any of our ancestors or predecessors; the said statutes  
 " concerning the not putting lands and tenements in mort-  
 " main, or any other statute, act, provision, law, restriction,  
 " or custom to the contrary thereof in any wise notwith-  
 " standing: *wherefore* we will, and, by these presents, for  
 " us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to every,  
 " and any, the subject and subjects of us, our heirs and suc-  
 " cessors, that they, any or either of them, may and shall  
 " have power to give, grant, sell, *devise* or alien to the said  
 " Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, and to  
 " their successors, any manors, messuages, lands, tene-  
 " ments, rectories, tythes, rents, reservations, services, and  
 " other possessions and hereditaments, which are not holden  
 " of us, our heirs and successors, in capite, or by Knight's  
 " service, or of any other person or persons not consenting  
 " by Knight's service; so that the said manors, messuages,  
 " lands, tenements, and other hereditaments, so to be given,  
 " granted, devised, or alienated, do not exceed in the whole  
 " the clear yearly value of one hundred pounds, over and  
 " above all charges and reprisals; and besides the said ma-  
 " nors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, so, as afore-  
 " said, granted, purchased, or to be purchased, the said  
 " statutes concerning the not putting lands and tenements in  
 " mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, law, pro-  
 " vision or custom, to the contrary thereof in any wise not-  
 " withstanding."

" *And moreover*, we will, and, by these presents, for us,  
 " our heirs and successors, do grant to the said Mayor,  
 " bailiffs,

CHAP. III. “ bailiffs, and commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and  
 “ their successors, that the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonal-  
 “ ty of the said city, and their successors, may, for ever  
 “ hereafter, have and hold all and all manner of liberties,  
 “ authorities, exemptions, manors, lands, tenements, fines,  
 “ forfeitures, redemptions, issues, and other hereditaments,  
 “ privileges, *quittances*, jurisdictions, and franchises, which  
 “ are mentioned to have been granted by any letters patent  
 “ of any of our ancestors or predecessors to the Mayor, bai-  
 “ liffs, and commonalty *of the county* of the city of Exeter,  
 “ or which were granted ever heretofore to the said Mayor,  
 “ bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city, by any name,  
 “ or by any incorporation, or by pretext of any incorporati-  
 “ on, or which the said Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty  
 “ of the said city of Exeter now have or hold, or which they  
 “ have used and enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, use, or  
 “ enjoy, of any estate of inheritance, by reason or pretext of  
 “ any charters or letters patent, in any manner heretofore  
 “ made, granted, or confirmed, by any of our ancestors or  
 “ predecessors, kings or queens of England, or by any other  
 “ lawful method, right, title, custom, usage, or prescrip-  
 “ tion heretofore lawfully used, had, or accustomed; *al-*  
 “ *though* the same, any or either of them, have or hath been  
 “ heretofore not used, or abused or ill used, or discontinued:  
 “ And although the same, any or either of them, are or have  
 “ been forfeited or lost; *to have, hold, and enjoy* [the same,]  
 “ to the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the said city,  
 “ and their successors for ever; *and yielding* and paying there-  
 “ fore to us, our heirs and successors, every year, so many,  
 “ so much, such, the same, and the like rents, services,  
 “ sums of money, and demands whatsoever, [as] have been  
 “ accustomed to be rendered and paid for the same to us here-  
 “ tofore, or as they ought to yield or pay: *wherefore* we will,  
 “ and, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors,  
 “ firmly enjoin and command, that the said Mayor, bailiffs,  
 “ and commonalty of our said city of Exeter, and their suc-  
 “ cessors, may have, hold, use, and enjoy, and may and  
 “ shall be able fully and absolutely to have, hold, use, and  
 “ enjoy for ever, all liberties, free customs, authorities, ju-  
 “ risdictions, *quittances*, aforesaid, and other the premises,  
 “ according to the tenor and effect of these our letters patent,  
 “ without the *let* or impediment of us, or any of our heirs  
 “ and successors; *willing* that the said Mayor, bailiffs, and  
 “ commonalty of the said city, and their successors, or any  
 “ or either of them, should not be *hindered*, molested, har-  
 “ rassed, or aggrieved, or in any respect disturbed by us, or  
 “ by

Confirmation  
of all  
former  
charters, li-  
berties, and  
franchises.

“ by our heirs or successors, by reason of the premises, or  
 “ of either of them; *willing*, and, by these presents, for us,  
 “ our heirs and successors, commanding and charging, as  
 “ well the treasurer, chancellor, and barons of the exchequer  
 “ of us, our heirs and successors, as our attorney-general  
 “ for the time being, and every of them, and all other offi-  
 “ cers and ministers of us, our heirs and successors, that  
 “ neither they, nor any, nor either of them, shall sue out or  
 “ *continue*, or cause to be sued out or continued, any writ  
 “ or summons of quo warranto, or any other writ or process  
 “ whatsoever, against the Mayor, bailiffs, and commonal-  
 “ ty of the said city, or any or either of them, for any causes,  
 “ things or matters, offences, claims, or usurpations, or  
 “ any of them, *due from*, claimed, attempted, used, had, or  
 “ usurped, by them or any of them, before the day of ma-  
 “ king these presents; *willing* also, that the mayor, bailiffs,  
 “ and commonalty of the said city, or either of them, should  
 “ by no means be molested or charged by any person or per-  
 “ sons, justices, officers, or ministers aforesaid, in or about  
 “ any dues, usages, claims, usurpations, or abuse of any o-  
 “ ther liberties, franchises, or jurisdictions, before the day  
 “ of making these our letters patent, nor be compelled to  
 “ answer for these things or either of them. *Notwithstanding*  
 “ that express mention is not made in these presents of the  
 “ true annual value of the certainty of the premises, or of  
 “ either of them, or any gifts or grants heretofore made by  
 “ us, or by any of our ancestors or predecessors, to the said  
 “ Mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty; or any statute, act, or-  
 “ dinance, provision, proclamation, or restriction heretofore  
 “ had, made, published, ordained or provided, or any  
 “ other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, to the contrary  
 “ thereof in any wise notwithstanding. *In testimony where-*  
 “ *of*, we have caused these our letters to be made patent.  
 “ *Witness myself*, at Westminster, the seventeenth day of  
 “ December, in the third year of our reign.”

WOLSELEY.

By writ of privy seal.

Fine assessed at XX. marks.

THO. COVENTRY.

U

The

## CHAP. III.

A. D.  
1629.

The town of *Cambridge* being infected by the plague, a considerable sum of money was collected by voluntary contribution, of the inhabitants of this city, and sent to the relief of the poor of that town.

1630.

In a scarcity  
the Mayor  
imports  
corn from  
abroad.

A scarcity of corn being likely to ensue, from the extreme wetness of the summer, the Mayor, this year, *Thomas Flaye Esq.* imported a large quantity from abroad, which, with a large quantity of fuel, he laid up in storehouses, and retailed to the poor, in the ensuing winter, at prime cost, to their great relief, and without any profit to himself; a laudable example to succeeding magistrates.

1631.

*Nicholas Vaughn*, Gent. was elected muster master of this city and county, and a pension of 6*l.* per annum conferred upon him. \*

1632.

Free-school  
at St. John's  
hospital  
founded by  
the Mayor  
and cham-  
ber.

Part of *St. John's* hospital was converted into a free-school (for instructing the youth of this city in classical learning) at the expence of the Mayor and chamber, who also built a convenient dwelling-house, adjoining the said school, for the master, and endowed the same with an annual salary of 30*l.* a year for the master and 10*l.* for an usher. †

1634.

A new cap of maintenance, and scabbard for the sword, of velvet richly embroidered with gold, were ordered to be made, and worn by the sword bearer.

1636.

St. Bartho-  
lomew's  
burying  
ground  
consecra-  
ted, &c.

The new burying ground, dedicated to *St. Bartholomew* (the land of which had been given by the chamber) was enclosed with walls, at the joint expence of the church and city, and consecrated by *Bishop Hall*, on the 24th of August being *St. Bartholomew's* day.

1639.

The plague raging in *Taunton*, the sum of 165*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* was collected by voluntary contributions of the inhabitants of this city, and sent to relieve the poor of that town.

The Mayor this year, *Robert Walker, Esq.* and *Simon Snow, Esq.* were elected citizens to serve in the ensuing parliament. ‡

1642.

The misunderstanding which had for a long time subsisted between the King and his parliament, now, unhappily broke out

\* This gentleman, in the dissension which soon after broke out between the King and parliament, endeavouring to seize some arms belonging to the rebels, was slain by a shot from a window, at *Dunsford*, in the county of *Devon*; and interred, with military honours, in *St. Bartholomew's* burying ground.

† The donations of several benefactors towards this foundation, and other pious uses, will be given in respective places in the descriptive, part of this work.

‡ There seems to be some mistake in the date of this return (*King Charles* called this parliament in 1640) unless the two representatives for this city were removed by death, and others chosen in their room.

out into an open war; the occasion of these dissensions have been so faithfully related by *Lord Clarendon* and other historians, that it would be needless to repeat them here. In the account of this war, I shall only particularize such events, as most materially relate to the share which the city of *Exeter*, and its neighbourhood had in it, and leave the reader to the above-mentioned authors for further information.

On the second of March both houses of parliament (by an act of their own) wrested the power of ordering the militia § out of the King's hands; and appointed such Lord Lieutenants of the several counties as were considered their friends, in opposition to those who were legally appointed by the King: accordingly, *Francis Earl of Bedford*, was sent down by them, as Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*, with full power to assemble and regulate the militia; he, therefore on his arrival, ordered them to assemble at *Exeter*, where he cashiered those officers who were suspected of being friends to the royal cause, and filled their places with such as he could depend upon.

The Earl having thus got possession of *Exeter*, disarmed the loyal part of the citizens, made additions to the fortifications, mounted 25 pieces of cannon on the walls, and garrisoned it for the parliament, to the great discontent of, by far, the major part of the inhabitants, who, being thus surprised, were obliged to submit patiently to the exactions and outrages of the republican soldiers.

The parliament next proceeded to abolish episcopacy, as too much resembling the hierarchy of the church of *Rome*; and such of the clergy, whose consciences would not suffer them to comply with such new regulations, were ejected from their livings, and their places filled with presbyterian, or independent preachers. \*

They next made an ordinance for sequestrating the estates of the royalists; another, for levying a tax throughout *England* and *Wales*, for the support of their armies and appointed commissioners in the several counties, cities, &c.

The commissioners appointed for the county of *Devon*, were *Sir Peter Prideaux*, *Sir George Chudleigh*, *Sir John Pole*, *Sir John Northcot*, *Sir Edmund Powell*, *Sir Samuel Rolle*, *Sir Shilston Calmady*, *Sir Nicholas Martin*, *Sir Francis Drake*, *Sir John Davie*, *Baronets*; *Robert Savery*, *Henry Walrond*, *John Worthy*, *Hugh Fortescue*, *Arthur Upton*, and *George Trowbridge*, Esquires; and, for the city of *Exeter*, *Christopher*

U 2

§ In those days, termed Trained-bands.

\* The whole of the clergy belonging to *Exeter Cathedral*, and thirteen of the parochial ministers, were thus dispossessed of their livings.

CHAP. III.

The war breaks out between the King and parliament.

The militia taken out of the King's hands. New Lord Lieutenants appointed by the parliament.

The Earl garrisons *Exeter* for the parliament; and mounts 25 pieces of cannon on the city walls.

A. D. 1643. Episcopacy abolished by the parliament.

The estates of the royalists sequestrated.

Commissioners.

Commissioners for the city of *Exeter*,

**CHAP. III.** *pher Clarke, Esquire, Mayor; Richard Saunders, Thomas Crossing, Adam Bennet, Walter White, John Hakevill, Esquires, Aldermen, and James Gould Esquire, Sheriff.*

Empowered to seize horses, arms, &c. for the use of the Parliament army.

These commissioners were invested with full power of demanding and seizing horses, arms, provisions, money, plate, and whatsoever they might judge necessary for the service of the Parliament army: on these seizures they were to set such rates and value as they thought proper, to be paid on the public faith, (which never was fulfilled) at the conclusion of the war.

The Earl of Stamford left governor of Exeter.

The Earl of *Bedford*, having settled his business at *Exeter*, left the Earl of *Stamford* governor of it, with a sufficient garrison to overawe the citizens and the neighbouring country, and set out to join the parliament army, under the command of the Earl of *Esser*.

The war had now spread itself throughout the whole kingdom; parties were in arms in most of the counties, and many skirmishes and battles had been fought, with various success; in the West, the parliament's committee were in possession of the whole county of *Devon* and part of *Cornwall*.

An army of Royalists formed in Cornwall.

At this time, the Marquis of *Hertford* having transported himself from *Wales* into the latter county with a small body of Royalists, was joined by *Sir Ralph Hopton* with about 150 horse, and soon after by *Sir Bevil Greenville* and other gentlemen; when, setting up the royal standard, the gentry, and inhabitants of that loyal county resorting to them in great numbers, a considerable army was soon formed; they then attacked the parliament's forces on *Braddock-down* near *Leskeard*, and defeated them, taking all their cannon, most of their colours, and 1250 prisoners, with very little loss on the King's side. Soon after this victory, the royalists advanced to *Tavistock*, where the Earl of *Stamford* was endeavouring to collect the scattered remains of the defeated army; but on the approach of the royalists he retreated, with what forces he could collect, to *Exeter*.

The republican army defeated by the royalists.

The Earl of Stamford retreats to Exeter.

Cessation of arms between the counties of Devon and Cornwall.

The parliament having passed the ordinance for levying a new tax, by which, no less a sum than 33,936*l.* was to be collected weekly throughout the kingdom, and delivered to their commissioners, proposed (in order to secure the payment of that part allotted to the county of *Devon*, and which county was very rich, populous, and entirely under their subjection) a cessation of arms between the two counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*; and this proposal being agreed to, the royalists retired into the latter.

This

This treaty, although ratified by the most solemn oaths and obligations, was no longer adhered to by the republicans, than while it served their purpose: for after collecting a large sum of money (both from their friends and enemies) and recruiting their forces, their *Major General James Chudleigh*, attempted, at the head of a large party of both horse and foot, to surprize *Launceston*, the head quarters of the royalists; but, after a sharp conflict, being repulsed, he retreated to *Oakhampton*.

CHAP. III.

The republicans break the treaty, and attempt to surprize Launceston

About the middle of May, the Earl of *Stamford* having recruited his forces, marched from *Exeter* against the royalists: his army consisted of 1,400 horse, and 5,400 foot, with thirteen pieces of brass cannon, one mortar, and a large magazine of ammunition and provisions: the Royalists, though not consisting of half that number, and in great want of ammunition and stores, were determined to give them battle, and accordingly made every preparation. During this, the Earl had detached *Sir George Chudleigh* on an attempt to surprize the Sheriff of *Cornwall*, and some other gentlemen who were assembled at *Rodmin*; the royalists, having obtained intelligence of his march, thought it a fair opportunity of attacking the enemies camp, while their horse were separated from them.

The Earl of Stamford marches from Exeter against the Royalists.

Sir George Chudleigh dispatched to surprize the Sheriff of Cornwall

Reduced as the royalists were, even to the bare subsistence of a biscuit per man, for a whole day, they marched with great resolution, and attacked the enemies camp at *Stratton*, which, after a bloody and well-disputed battle, they forced, and gained a complete victory.

Battle of Stratton.

In this battle, a great number of the republicans were slain; *Major General Chudleigh*, with 30 other officers, and 1700 men taken prisoners; and all their artillery, stores, tents and baggage, with 70 barrels of gunpowder and a great quantity of provisions fell into the hands of the conquerors.

The Republicans defeated, with the loss of all their artillery, &c.

The Earl of *Stamford* fled to *Exeter* (being the first to carry the news of his defeat, to his republican party in that city, which threw them into the greatest consternation,) and was soon after followed by *Sir George Chudleigh*. The conquerors having solemnly returned thanks to God, (in the field of battle) for their signal victory, refreshed themselves a day and night in the camp, on the spoil of the enemy, and then marched into *Devonshire*, intending to attack either *Exeter* or *Plymouth*, the two most considerable garrisons in that county: but receiving an express from the King, informing them that he had sent his nephew, *Prince Maurice*, and the Marquis of *Hertford*, with a large body of horse to reinforce their army; and that the parliament designed to send

Earl of Stamford and Sir George Chudleigh seek refuge in Exeter. Royalists march into Devon.



CHAP. III. send *Sir William Waller*, with a fresh army into the West, the royalists (leaving a small party of horse and foot at *Saltsash*, to defend the borders of *Cornwall*) marched, by *Exeter*, to *Tiverton*, where they surprised a republican regiment, commanded by *Colonel Ware*: they then proceeded to *Chard*, where they were joined by *Prince Maurice* and the Marquis of *Hertford*.

Skirmish at  
Tiverton.

Joined by  
Prince  
Maurice, at  
Chard.

Sir John  
Ackland  
garrisons  
his house  
at *Columb-  
John*, for  
the King.

The greatest part of the county of *Devon* was still in the hands of the parliament forces; and the royalists had not a single garrison throughout the whole county, except *Sir John Ackland's* house at *Columb-John*, which he had fortified and garrisoned with a small, but, resolute band: this band made frequent incursions, even to the gates of *Exeter*, and kept that garrison in continual alarm.

Royalists  
blockade  
*Exeter*.

*Prince Maurice* then sent *Sir John Berkley* back into that county, with *Colonel Howard's* regiment of horse; and he being joined by great numbers of Gentlemen, and other well affected persons in the King's cause, soon formed a body of troops sufficient (not only for keeping the disaffected in awe, but) for blockading several of the Parliament's garrisons, particularly that of *Exeter*, extending their quarters within a mile, and fixing guards even in the sight of, the gates of the city.

The govern-  
nor orders  
all the hou-  
ses near the  
city walls to  
be pulled  
down, and  
the trees to  
be felled.

Prince  
Maurice  
lays siege to  
*Exeter*.

The Earl of  
*Warwick*  
attempts to  
raise the  
siege by his  
fleet,

The Earl of *Stamford*, expecting to be besieged, ordered all the houses in the suburbs near the city walls to be demolished; and the trees in the *Northern* and *Southern hays* (some of which were upwards of 100 years growth) to be felled, and thus laid open all the approaches to the city walls, and made every preparation for a vigorous defence.

*Prince Maurice*, after taking *Dorchester*, marched for *Exeter*, and summoned the governor to an immediate surrender: this being refused, he blocked up all the avenues to the city, and commenced a close siege. The Parliament being informed of the siege of *Exeter*, ordered the Earl of *Warwick*, who commanded their fleet, to harrass the coast of *Devon*; thinking thereby to force the royalists to abandon their attempt; but *Sir John Berkley* being sent with all the horse to watch their motions, the Earl seeing no likelihood of making good his landing, sailed for the mouth of the *Exe*, hoping, by means of his smaller vessels getting up the river, thereby to raise the siege, or throw in succours of relief.

Accordingly, with a flood tide and a fair wind, they proceeded up the river; but *Sir John Berkley*, by forced marches from *Totness*, coming time enough to take possession of some points of land which commanded the channel, and being supplied with some cannon from the Prince's army, so effectually

fectually opposed their passage, that after a warm action of, nearly, four hours, they gave up their attempt, and endeavoured to retreat, leaving three of their ships (which had grounded by reason of the tide's failing,) one of which was burnt, and the other two were taken possession of, by the royalists. While the siege of *Exeter* was thus continuing, the garrison of *Plymouth* in conjunction with the inhabitants of the North of *Devon* (who were notoriously disaffected) assembled what forces they could, in order to force the royalists to withdraw the siege. On notice of this, *Sir John Berkley* sent *Colonel Digby*, with a party of horse and foot, to *Torrington*; and the republicans having assembled at *Bideford*, to the number of about, 1200 foot and 300 horse, under the command of *Colonel Bennet*, proceeded to attack the royalists at *Torrington*; but they having notice of their coming, marched from the town to meet them; and though greatly inferior in numbers, after a short action, entirely defeated them; killing 200 on the spot, and in the pursuit taking 200 prisoners. *Colonel Digby* immediately proceeded to *Bideford*, which, with *Barnstaple* and *Appledore*, surrendered on the first summons, and were taken possession of, by the royalists.

The garrison of *Exeter*, thus deprived of all hopes of relief, surrendered, on articles, on the 4th of September; and on the King's troops taking possession, *Sir John Berkley* was appointed governor, to the great joy of the major part of the citizens, who were firmly attached to the royal cause.

The King, Queen and family, who had for some time resided at *Oxford*, being apprehensive that, that city would be besieged by the parliament army under the command of the Earl of *Essex*; and the Queen, being then pregnant, she was removed (at her own request) to *Exeter*, as a place of greater security: she was received with great acclamations of joy by the garrison and loyal citizens, who conducted her to *Bedford house*, which had been fitted up for her reception. Soon after the Queen's arrival in *Exeter* (16th June) she was delivered of a Princess, who was baptized, in the Cathedral, by the name of *Henrietta Maria*: the sponsors were, *Sir John Berkley*, *Lady Poulett*, and *Lady Dalkeith*; on this occasion a handsome font was erected in the body of the church, under a rich canopy of state, and Doctor *Burnell*, Chancellor of the Church, performed the ceremony. \*

The

\* This Princess, for her beauty and personal accomplishments, was esteemed the handsomest in Christendom. She was afterwards married to the Duke of *Orleans* (brother to the French King;) but did not long survive her marriage.

CHAP. III.  
but without success; and with the loss of 3 of his ships.

The republican army assemble at *Bideford*.

Republicans defeated at *Torrington*.

*Bideford*, *Barnstaple*, and *Appledore* taken.

*Exeter* surrenders to the King's troops, and *Sir John Berkley* appointed governor.

A. D. 1644.

The Queen retires to *Exeter* as a place of moresafety, and lodges at *Bedford house*.

The Queen delivered of a Princess. The young Princess baptized.

## CHAP. III.

The Queen goes to Falmouth, and thence escapes to France.

Earl of Essex at Tiverton. Captain Howard executed by order of the Earl of Essex. Cap. Turpin executed by order of Sir John Berkley.

The King comes to Exeter in pursuit of the Earl of Essex.

The citizens make a present of 500*l.* to the King and 100*l.* to the Prince.

A. D.  
1645.

The Earl of *Essex* proceeded rapidly towards *Devonshire*, at the head of a powerful army. This put the Queen in fear of her personal safety, and she removed to *Falmouth*, where she embarked for *France*, and safely arrived, escaping the vigilance of the republican cruisers, that were purposely sent to intercept her. Before her departure from *Exeter*, she was presented, in the name of the citizens, with a purse containing 200*l.* in gold, which she most gratefully received.

The Earl of *Essex* made no attempt on *Exeter*, but proceeded to *Tiverton*, which surrendered to him after a slight defence. Among the prisoners taken there, was a Captain *Howard*, a near relation to the Duke of *Norfolk*, who, being charged with desertion from the parliament's army, was tried by a court martial, condemned and executed. Sir *John Berkley*, being informed of this circumstance, immediately ordered that *Turpin*, a sea Captain, who had been taken prisoner in one of the ships that attempted the relief of *Exeter*, and who had deserted from the royalists, to be executed in a similar manner. †

The Earl of *Essex* continued at *Tiverton*, until he received advice of the King's following him with a large army, and finding no possibility of retreating Eastward, he marched into *Cornwall*. His Majesty, after defeating several rebels in his route, came to *Exeter*, accompanied by the Prince of *Wales*, and a great number of Noblemen and Gentlemen, who had continued steadfast in their loyalty; at his entrance into the city, he was received by the Mayor and citizens with every token of respect, and congratulation. His Majesty took his residence at *Bedford House*; the Prince, at the *Deanry*, and the Noblemen and others were lodged in the houses of the principal citizens, who entertained them with the greatest hospitality: during the King's stay at *Exeter*, a negotiation between him and the Earl of *Essex* was attempted; but the Earl's demands running very high, it proved unsuccessful. Before his Majesty departed, the citizens presented him with 500*l.* in gold, and the Prince with 100*l.* The King proved successful in his expedition into *Cornwall*; and having defeated the Earl of *Essex*, and dispersed his army, returned in triumph to *Exeter*, where he staid but one night, and then proceeded to *Oxford*.

The King being defeated, at the fatal battle of *Naseby*, by *Cromwell*, his affairs began to decline: General *Fairfax* was sent, by the Parliament, with an army, into the West; and, after

† A retaliation unjustifiable by the dictates of humanity.

after taking *Bridgewater*, he rapidly reduced most of the King's garrisons in his march: took *Tiverton* by assault, and made the garrison, which consisted of about 300 men, prisoners; among whom, was a *Major Sadler*, formerly an officer in the parliament army, who, deserting it, had entered into the King's service; and, being tried for this by a court martial, he was condemned to die: but making some overtures to *Fairfax*, was released, and came to *Exeter*, where he pretended he had broke from his prison: he was, however, suspected by the Royalists, and, being detected in a traitorous correspondence, he was tried and convicted, and was shot on *Southernhay*.

CHAP. III.

*Tiverton*  
taken by  
*Fairfax*.

*Major Sadler*  
executed  
on *Southernhay*.

It was now the depth of winter; and *Fairfax*, not thinking it proper to besiege *Exeter*, contented himself with blocking up all the avenues to the city, by placing parties of his troops in the different villages, and gentlemen's seats in its vicinity, in order to prevent any intercourse between the garrison, and the neighbouring country: particularly at *Bishop's Clist*, *Stoke-canon*, and *Poltimore house*. He then proceeded to *Ottery St. Mary*, where he fixed his head quarters; and a sickness breaking out among his troops, he rested for some time in that town.

*Fairfax* places  
garrisons in the  
villages, &c.  
round *Exeter*.

During his stay at *Ottery*, he detached *Sir Hardress Waller* to seize *Crediton*; and other parties to take possession of, and garrison, *Powderham castle*; *Sir George Chudleigh's house* at *Ashton*; *Lord Chichester's* and *Mr. Davy's* at *Canonsleigh*, which so straitened the garrison of *Exeter*, that they were reduced to the greatest distress for want of provisions.

*Sir Hardress Waller*  
takes *Crediton*.

A. D.  
1646.

*Fairfax* having ordered his army to rendezvous between *Crediton* and *Oakhampton*, sent *Lieutenant General Cromwell* to *Bovey tracry*, where he surprised a party of Royalists, under the command of *Lord Wentworth*; took most of the men prisoners, 400 horses, and seven stand of colours.

A party of  
the royalists  
surprised at  
*Bovey tracry*

*Fairfax* now proceeded to *Dartmouth*, and taking it by storm, he raised the siege of *Plymouth*, and then marched to *Torrington*, where the royalists had assembled the greatest part of their forces, in order to endeavour to raise the blockade of *Exeter*. On the 14th *February*, the armies came to a general action, which was fought with great inveteracy and slaughter on both sides, and ended in the total defeat of the royalists.

*Dartmouth*  
taken by  
storm.

Battle at  
*Torrington*.

Soon after the conclusion of the battle, a melancholy scene ensued: the royalists, who had been taken prisoners were crowded together in *Torrington church*, in which were nearly 80 barrels of gunpowder: these, by some unknown means,

*Torrington Church*  
blown up.

X

took

**CHAP. III.** took fire, and blew up, with a dreadful explosion, which not only destroyed the unfortunate prisoners, but many of the captors: demolished the Church, and laid in ruins great part of the town.

**The royalists again defeated in Cornwall.** *Fairfax* pursued his victory, and immediately marched into *Cornwall*, where he again defeated *Lord Hopton*, (who had collected together the dispersed royalists) and in a short time reduced the whole counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall* (except the city of *Exeter*) to the obedience of the parliament. After this, he directed his march towards *Exeter*, and closely invested it; and sent *Sir Hardress Waller* to besiege the fort at *Exmouth*, which very soon surrendered.

**Exeter surrendered to Fairfax upon articles.** The governor, and garrison, of *Exeter* being in great want of provisions, and seeing no hopes of relief, agreed to a truce of six days; at the expiration of which, they surrendered on articles: the principal of these articles were, that the garrison (except the officers who were to retain their swords) should lay down their arms, and have liberty to depart to their own homes, or to the nearest garrison belonging to the King, without any hurt, or molestation from the parliament's troops: that the citizens should not be plundered, and that they should enjoy the liberty of choosing their own magistrates, and all such other privileges, of which they were possessed before the war; and that the Princess *Henrietta*, her governess and household, should have liberty to pass with their plate, money, goods, &c. to any place in *England* or *Wales*, at her desire, in 20 days.

**The parliament's army take possession, break the articles, displace the receiver, & turn out the church ministers, and greatly damage the cathedral.** The parliament's forces took possession of the city and castle, on the 9th of April; and, in violation of the articles which had been agreed to, they made the citizens suffer severely, for the part they had taken in behalf of their King and constitution: they demanded a large sum of money, by way of contribution, to preserve them from being plundered; free quarters for a large body of troops; and displaced the city receiver, who had become obnoxious to them, by his loyalty. They again ejected from their cures, all the episcopal ministers, and took possession of the houses of the Bishop, Dean and other residentiaries.

**The Bishop's throne taken down as useless.** The Cathedral they divided into two parts; one for a presbyterian, and the other for an independent meeting, separating the choir from the nave by erecting a wall, where the screen which supports the organ now stands. The beautifully painted glass of the windows they beat to pieces as objects of romish superstition; they did the same by the sepulchral monuments, and other sculptures, which time, and the reformation had spared; the Bishop's throne they ordered

ordered to be taken down, as useless; † and the soldiers wantonly fired their muskets at the altar piece, (the marks of the bullets are still visible;) in short they committed the most horrid outrages, in this venerable and ancient house of God; not sparing even the dead, whose sepulchres they ransacked, and scattered their bones, for the sake of the leaden coffins.

The Chapter house they turned into a stable for the troopers' horses; and the Bishop's palace, Deanery, and Canons' houses, into barracks for soldiers.

The parish Churches being deprived of their pastors, and the incomes reduced, by the smallness of the congregations, none of the dissenting ministers would accept of the cures; and 13 of them were exposed for sale, by the common cryer.

*Fairfax*, having thus reduced the counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, marched with his army to *Oxford*; leaving *Lieutenant General Hammond*, governor of *Exeter*, with a garrison of three regiments of foot.

*John Lovering* being appointed Receiver of this city, refused to be sworn; for which he was fined 100*l*, and *Nicholas Breking* was, three months after, appointed in his room.

On *General Fairfax's* approaching *Oxford*, the King left that city; but not knowing where to go for safety, he repaired to the *Scotch* army, (then in *England*) on a supposition that they would protect him. The *Scots* paid him, at first, all the honours due to Majesty, but afterwards, basely delivered him to the Parliament's commissioners, who imprisoned him for a considerable time, in different places.

After this, the house of commons (composed entirely of independents) established a pretended high court of justice, by which the King was condemned to be beheaded; and this sentence was executed on January 30th, 1649. §

Soon after the death of the King, proclamations were sent, by the assumed government, to *James Gould Esquire*, the then Mayor of this city, which he refused to receive or publish; and (the messenger having left them in his house) threw them out from his door; when the judges of assize came on their circuit, he likewise alighted them; nor would he acknowledge their power; for this they fined him 200*l*, and

X 2

sued

The chapter house made a stable, the Bishop's palace, &c. barracks. 13 of the parish churches exposed for sale by the cryer.

A. D.  
1648.

1649.  
The King takes refuge with the Scotch army, which deliver him to the parliament.

The King beheaded.

The Mayor refuses to receive the parliaments proclamation and pays no respect to the judges.

† Some worthy gentlemen took care of the materials of the throne, and had them privately conveyed to a place of security, where they remained until the restoration, when they were replaced, with (happily) very little damage. The Dean of Exeter, Dr. William Peterson was maintained by Sir William Courtenay at Powderham castle, during the whole time of the usurpation.

§ Impartiality obliges us to observe that it was neither the Scotch nor the Presbyterians, nor the parliament who put the king to death; but the independents, who hated them all.

## CHAP. III.

The Assizes held at Tiverton.

Two men suffocated in a well.

sued him in the court of Exchequer for the sum; but he defended himself so well, that the Attorney-general entered at length a *noli prosequi* against him. The next summer assizes the judges executed their commission at *Tiverton* (which had never been done before, nor has since) to revenge, in some manner on the citizens, the behaviour of their Mayor. This gentleman, though low in stature, was of undaunted courage and resolution.

A melancholy accident happened about this time, at the White hart inn, *Southgate-street*: two carpenters, *Paul Penrose* and *William Johnson*, being employed to cleanse a well, which had long been neglected, and covered up; the former was let down into the well, and instantly suffocated, by an uncommon stench; the latter went down after him, and shared the same fate; a third man went down to endeavour to save his friends, and would have also fallen a victim, had he not been immediately drawn up; he was almost expiring, but proper medicines being used, was restored: he declared that such a putrid effluvia arose from the bottom of the well, that it overpowered his senses: this must have been occasioned by the stagnated air, which had been long confined, and produced a mortal damp.

## MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of CHARLES I.

1625.	Francis Crossing.	John Parr.
<i>Thomas Walker,</i>	John Taylor, jun.	Marm. Bevercomb.
<i>Nicholas Martin.</i>	John Cupper.	
<i>William Golding.</i>	Hump. Bidgood.	1632.
<i>James White.</i>		<i>John Hakewill.</i>
<i>George Jourden.</i>	1629.	James Tucker.
1626.	<i>Nicholas Spicer.</i>	Richard Crossing.
<i>John Taylor.</i>	Adam Bennet.	Ralph Herman.
<i>John Hakewill.</i>	John Martin.	Richard Mayne.
<i>Robert Walker.</i>	Thomas Blackall,	1633.
<i>John Berry.</i>	John Maddock,	<i>Gilbert Sweet.</i>
<i>Jos. Trowbridge.</i>	1630.	Robert Walker.
1627.	<i>Thomas Flay,</i>	Phillip Crossing,
<i>John Ackland.</i>	Roger Mallock,	Richard Yeo.
<i>Gilbert Sweet.</i>	James Gould.	Edward Anthony.
<i>George Harris.</i>	John Gill.	1634.
<i>John Anthony.</i>	Will. Blackall.	<i>Francis Crossing.</i>
<i>Richard Maddock.</i>	1631.	John Hayne.
1628.	<i>Nicholas Martin.</i>	Chris. Broderidge.
<i>John Lynn.</i>	John Crocker.	Thomas Knott.
	Simon Snow.	John

John Finhay. 1635.	Thomas Kendall. William Spiller. 1640.	Nicholas Somers. Henry Gandy. 1645.	CHAP. III.
<i>Adam Bennet.</i> John Penny. James Marshall. John Clark, Ob. Robert Trescott. Stephen Olivean. 1636.	<i>John Penny.</i> Walter White. Samuel Crocker. John Lovering. John Butler. 1641.	<i>John Cupper.</i> John Colleton, removed. James Gould. James Tucker, jun. George Edmonds. Edward Painter. 1646.	
<i>Roger Mallock.</i> Richard Saunders. Alan Penney. Thomas Ford. Henry Every. 1637.	<i>Richard Saunders.</i> Hugh Crocker. Nicholas Broking. Thomas Pitt. John Lavers. 1642.	<i>Walter White.</i> Richard Crossing. Bernard Bartlett. Henry Prigge. Edward Laurence. 1647.	
<i>Thomas Crossing.</i> Thomas Tooker. John Colleton. Nich. Carwithen. Humphry Tooker. 1638.	<i>Christopher Clark.</i> John Capper. Chris. Clark, jun. Philip Foxwell. Nicholas Brinly. 1643.	<i>Adam Bennett.</i> John Lovering, refused the office. Nicholas Broking. Thomas Ford. Rich. Ledginham. Francis Dyett. 1648.	
<i>James Tucker.</i> Christopher Clark. Christopher Parr. Oliver Tapper. Richard Evans. 1639.	<i>Sir Hu. Crocker, Kt.</i> Richard Yeo. Chris. Lethbridge. William Holmes. Isaac Mauditt. 1644.	<i>James Gould.</i> Ralph Herman. Fran. Lippincot. George Macy. Thomas Tacke.	
<i>Robert Walker.</i> Henry Battishill. Richard Sweet.	<i>Nicholas Spicer.</i> John Martin. William Sanford.		

## INTERREGNUM.

The Independent party in the House of Commons, having thus removed the King. published a declaration against the proclaiming *Charles Stuart* (the late King's eldest son,) or any other person whatsoever, on pain of being punished, as in cases of high treason. They next passed an Act, for abolishing the kingly power, as entirely useless, burdensome and dangerous; and soon after, set a price on Prince *Charles's* head: they also annulled the House of Lords, set up a common wealth, and obliged all persons possessed of any

The common wealth

A. D.  
1649.



**CHAP. III.** any public post, or office, to take out new grants and fresh oaths, in order to qualify themselves for holding the same.

The Mayor elected refuses to be sworn.

This year, *Richard Crossing*, Esq. being elected Mayor, refused to take the oaths appointed by the now (*usurped*) government; and, no fine being set on him, nor any other Mayor chosen, the office, for the year was supplied by deputies:

A. D.  
1650.

*Richard Culling* was appointed one of the bailiffs; but he, refusing the office, was fined, and *William Cowell* placed in his stead.

1651.

*Edward Paswell* was appointed to the said office, and refusing the same, was fined, and accordingly paid; but, being appointed again, the year following, he executed it.

1652.

There not being a sufficient number of members in the common council below the chair, that had qualified themselves (by having been either receivers or bailiffs) to serve the office of Mayor; two receivers were, this year appointed for that purpose; and the same method was pursued the following year.

1653.

The Parson of Mary Clist on horseback with his wife, fall into a well in Paris-street.

A remarkable accident happened to *Mr. John Bettison*, Rector of the parish of *St. Mary Clist*; he, on the 11th Jan. about six o'clock in the evening, was returning home from *Exeter*, on horseback, with his wife behind him, when in going down *Paris-street*, the horse, with its riders, fell into a well near 40 feet deep, which had been but slightly covered over. The neighbours being alarmed, came to their assistance, and by the help of ropes, extricated the Parson and his wife, providentially, unhurt: but the horse, being much bruised, died.

Oliver Cromwell proclaimed Protector.

*Oliver Cromwell* having established his authority on the ruins of the parliament, caused himself to be proclaimed, Protector of the kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; and accordingly he was proclaimed as such in this city, with great military pomp, on 19th December, 1653.

1655.

An insurrection of the royalists in Wiltshire,

Some gentlemen of *Wiltshire*, uneasy at the persecutions which the royalists experienced, had recourse to arms; and on Sunday 11th March entered *Salisbury*, with about 200 men, where they seized all the horses they could find, and took the commissions from the Judges; it being then the time of the assizes: but finding their numbers increase but slowly (as the people were deterred from joining them, through fear of the consequences,) and having no prospect of success, in *Wiltshire*, they retreated into *Devon*: where some troops of horse were sent in pursuit of them, which overtook them at *Southmolton*: a slight skirmish ensued, when overpowered by numbers, they surrendered, on promise of pardon,

they retreat into Devon,

don, and were brought prisoners to *Exeter*, where, as the jails were full of them, and they in great distress, the citizens charitably administered every relief and consolation in their power.

A special commission of Oyer and Terminer was held at the castle, for the trial of these unfortunate men; a great number were found guilty, and (in violence of the promise made to them on their surrender,) *John Penruddock* and *Hugh Grove* Esquires, were beheaded in the castle; several hanged at *Heavitree*; and a great number transported to *America*.

The body of *Mr. Penruddock* was buried in *St. Laurence's* church, and that of *Mr. Grove* in *St. Sidwell's*.

The Church yard of *St. Peter* (which had hitherto been the common cemetery for the city at large) was levelled and railed in, at the sole expence of the Chamber; and for this purpose 100 trees were felled, and brought from *Duryard wood*: the Chamber also caused the horseway from the *Broadgate* to be paved at their expence.

The Corn market was removed from the *Fore-street*, to the new shambles

*Oliver Cromwell* died on the 3d September, 1658; and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Richard*, in the protectorate.

*Oliver* had greatly augmented the naval power of *England*, and encouraged its commerce and manufactures, which greatly increased the riches of the kingdom; and *Exeter* shared in the general benefit, by an extension of its woollen manufactories.

*Richard* was proclaimed Protector, in this city, September 7th, 1658; but, not having the abilities of his Father, the General Officers of the army soon usurped the whole powers of government, and considered him as a mere cypher; and after a short anarchy, restored the *Long Parliament*, which had been dissolved by *Oliver* in 1653.

The nation at this time was divided into three parties; the *Parliament*, or *Commonwealth*; the *Army*; and the *Royalists*, who hoped for the restoration of the exiled king.

The latter were joined by a great number of presbyterians, among whom were many of the principal ministers, who equally dreaded the assumed power of the army, and the hatred of the independents: hence commotions arose in different parts of the kingdom, and particularly in *Exeter*, where the inhabitants assembling in arms, declared for a free parliament; this created such a confusion, that it put a stop to all kinds of business; insomuch that the shops were not opened for the space of three days.

These disturbances happening in the Sessions week, the Justices

CHAP. III.  
are over-  
powered,  
and brought  
prisoners to  
*Exeter*,

are tried &  
executed.

A. D.  
1657.  
*St. Peter's*  
Church-  
yard railed  
in.

1658.

*Richard*  
*Cromwell*  
proclaimed  
Protector.  
*Long Parli-*  
*ament* re-  
stored.

1659.

The presby-  
terians join  
the royalists  
in promo-  
ting the  
King's re-  
storation.

**CHAP. III.** Justices and principal Gentlemen of the county of *Devon* were assembled in the castle: when a remonstrance was by them agreed to, and sent to the Parliament, couched in the following terms,

Remonstrance sent to Parliament,

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
WILLIAM LENTHALL, Esq. SPEAKER OF  
THE PARLIAMENT.

“ *We*, the gentry of the county of *Devon*, finding ourselves  
“ without a regular government (after your last interruption,)  
“ designed a public meeting to consult remedies, and which  
“ we could not so conveniently effect till this week of our  
“ general quarter sessions at *Eron*, where we found divers of  
“ the inhabitants groaning under high oppressions, and a  
“ general defect of trade to the utter ruin of many, and fear  
“ of the like to others, which is as visible to the whole Coun-  
“ ty, that occasioned such disorders as were no small trouble  
“ and disturbance to us, which, by God’s blessing upon our  
“ endeavours, were soon suppressed, and quieted without  
“ blood; and though we find, since our first purposes, an al-  
“ teration in the state of affairs, by your re-establishment at  
“ the helm of government, yet conceive that we are but in  
“ part redressed of our grievances, and that the chief expe-  
“ dient will be the recalling all those members who were  
“ secluded in 1648, and sat before the first force upon the  
“ Parliament, and also by filling up vacant places, and all to  
“ be admitted without any oath, or engagement previous to  
“ their entrance, for which things if you please to take a  
“ speedy course, we shall defend you against all opposers,  
“ and future interruption, with our lives and fortunes, for the  
“ accomplishment whereof, we shall use all lawful means,  
“ which we humbly conceive may best conduce to the peace  
“ and safety of the nation.”

and pre-  
sented by  
Thomas  
Bampfylde,  
Esq.

Gen. Monk  
marches for  
London.

This remonstrance was accordingly sent to *London*, and presented by *Thomas Bampfylde, Esq.* and became a precedent for many other cities and towns to follow their example; the whole power of government was usurped, at this period, by a committee of twenty-three persons (most of them, officers in the army;) and the parliament, not being able to wrest the authority from their hands, endeavoured to draw over, *General Monk* (then in *Scotland*) to side with them: *Monk*, who had long designed the King’s restoration, took advantage of this opportunity, and declared for the Parliament: his example being followed by others, he assembled his army, and marched for *London*, where, gaining the good will of the citizens, he, according to the general desire of the nation,

nation, restored the Parliament that had been secluded in 1648. CHAP. III.

The Parliament thus restored, dissolved themselves in a few days after their meeting, and summoned a new parliament to meet on the 25th April following. A. D. 1660.

The new Parliament soon came to a resolution of restoring the King, and the ancient form of government: accordingly they sent some of their members to invite his Majesty over. He was proclaimed in *London* 8th May, 1660; and on the Friday following, at the usual places, in this city, viz. at the *Guildhall*, the *little Conduit*, in *St. Peter's Church-yard*, the *Serge market*, at the *great Conduit*, and at *St. John's Bow*: the procession was conducted with great solemnity and magnificence; consisting of the Mayor, Aldermen, Members of the Common council, and City officers, in their scarlet and other robes; the different incorporated companies, or trades, in their livery gowns, preceded by their bealdes and banners: then the *Herald* at arms, dressed in his *Tabard*, and mounted on a stately horse; surrounded by the constables of the different wards, and attended by a Troop of horse (with silver trumpets) commanded by *Major Hagedott*: then followed the different companies of the city Trained-bands, armed, and in their buff coats; the whole attended by many thousands of the citizens, who testified their joy by repeated and loud acclamations; the conduits poured wine; the bells rang; and the thundering of cannons from the Castle, with repeated volleys of musquetry, rent the air; while every thing contributed to testify the happiness of the citizens, in being delivered from anarchy and confusion, to a settled form of government both in Church and State!

#### MAYORS and BAILIFFS during the INTERREGNUM, and USURPATION.

1649.	Richard Sweet.	1652.
<i>Richard Crossing,</i> <i>refused.</i>	Fran. Lippingcott.	<i>Ralph Herman.</i>
<i>Richard Sanders,</i> <i>Adam Bennett,</i> <i>deputies.</i>	Richard Cullen, <i>refused.</i>	James Pearsey, re- <i>signed.</i>
Richard Evans.	J. Mongwell, jun.	Simon Snow.
Samuel Slade.	William Cowell.	Richard Spicer.
Richard Candish.		Richard White.
William Rolston.	1651.	Edward Foxwell.
1650.	<i>Richard Sweet.</i>	1653.
<i>Richard Evans,</i>	Thomas Ford.	<i>Simon Snow.</i>
	Walter Deeble.	Chris. Clark, jun.
	William Bruen.	<i>resigned.</i>
	Edward Foxwell.	James
	Y	

CHAP. III.

James Marshall.  
John Pynn.  
Walter Holditch.  
Thomas Dix.

1654.

*Richard Crossing.*  
Chris. Lethbridge.  
Malachi Pyne.  
John Crook.  
John Atwill.

1655.

*Nicholas Broking.*  
Bernard Bartlett.  
Bernard Sparke.  
John Mayne.  
Thomas Crispin.

1656.

*Thomas Ford.*  
Henry Prigg.  
William Pyne.  
William Shower.  
Tobias Allen.

1657.

*James Pears.*  
Henry Gandy.  
John Gupwill.  
Edmund Starr.  
William Penny.

1658.

*James Marshall.*  
Walter Deeble.

Edward Wheeler.  
Samuel Beard.  
William Hooper.

1659.

*Chris. Clarke, jun.*  
William Bruen.  
Paul Draper.  
John Elwill.  
John Guswill.

1660.

*Chris. Lethbridge.*  
John Pynn.  
John Anthony.  
Edward Eveleigh.  
Abraham Gibbs.

*End of the third Chapter.*

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## CHAPTER IV.

### *From the Accession of King Charles II. to the 44th of King George III.*

**K**ING Charles, immediately after his restoration, re-warded *General Monk* for the great share he had in promoting that desirable event, by creating him *Duke of Albermarle*, *Earl of Torrington*, *Baron Monk of Potheridge*, \* *Beauchamp* and *Hays*, and Knight of the Garter; and the citizens of *Exeter*, in testimony of the great regard they had for him, and his merits, presented him with the Freedom, and elected him by a patent under their common seal, to be *Lord High Steward* of their City.

The citizens, to welcome his Majesty's return home, presented him with plate to the value of 700*l*; and his sister *Princess Henrietta Maria*, with plate to the amount of 200*l*. value,

CHAP. IV.

A. D.  
1660.

General  
Monk created  
Duke of  
Albermarle,  
&c.

The King  
presented  
with 700*l*.  
& his sister  
with 200*l*.

Y 2

The

\* *General Monk*, son of *Sir Thomas Monk*, was born at *Potheridge*, near *Great Torrington*, in the county of *Devon*. *Sir Thomas* having a large family, and living in an expensive stile, much superior to his income, greatly reduced his paternal fortune, and involved himself in such difficulties, that he was obliged to secrete himself from his creditors. It happened at a particular time, that there was to be a general meeting of the gentlemen of the county of *Devon*, at *Exeter castle*; *Sir Thomas* rightly judging that some writs had been issued against him, and yet, being desirous to attend the meeting, applied to the Sheriff by letter, desiring that such writs might not be executed at that time; but that if he could not make a compromise with his creditors, he would surrender himself when called for. The Sheriff returned in answer; "that upon his honour, *Sir Thomas* should be free from his officers, during the time of the said meeting;" but contrary to this promise, he caused *Sir Thomas* to be publicly arrested in the presence of the whole meeting. This news, being brought to the young *George Monk*, (afterwards the General,) so exasperated him, that he immediately took home and came to *Exeter*, where, in the presence of all the gentlemen, he not only upbraided the Sheriff, but caned him very severely: for this a prosecution was commenced against him, and he was obliged to seek for safety by flight; and to shelter himself from his pursuers, he entered as a common sailor on board a King's ship, where, after some time, he, for his good behaviour and bravery, was made a Lieutenant; and this was the first beginning of his military career.

**CHAP. IV.** The Bishops were now restored to their Sees; and those which had been vacated by death, since the abolition of episcopacy, were filled up: among these, *Dr. John Gauden* was promoted to that of *Exeter*.

The Bishops restored to their sees

Bishop Gauden's entrance into this city.

On his first visit to his Diocese, he was met by the principal gentlemen of the county of *Devon*, who attended him to *Exeter*, forming a grand cavalcade of coaches, and some hundreds of horse: when he entered the city, he was received at the Eastgate by the Mayor, Chamber, and incorporated Trades, in their usual formalities, and some thousands of citizens, who conducted him to the Cathedral, with great testimonies of joy and respect.

*Greenville Weeks*, Gent. was elected Muster master of this City and County, and a yearly pension of 6*l.* was allowed him.

Any person arresting another on a city plaint, is to file a declaration within 3 weeks.

An ancient usage in this city was ordered to be continued, by the Mayor and bailiffs; that if any person should be here imprisoned upon a plaint (issued from the Provost's court) and the Plaintiff bring not the declaration in writing, into the court within three weeks after the arrest, and file the same, that the defendant should be discharged from his imprisonment.

*Sir James Smith*, Knight, and *Robert Walker*, Esquire, were elected representatives in Parliament, for this City.

The city waits restored.

The Musical waits (after many years sequestration) were restored, by the Mayor and Chamber, to their places and salaries.

A. D. 1661. The city presents the Queen-mother with 300*l.* in plate.

The Queen-mother, returning to *England*, was presented in the name of the city, with plate to the value 300*l.* as a testimony of their joy for her safe arrival.

An act of parliament was this year passed, which enabled the King to grant commissions to divers gentlemen in the several counties, for the regulation of all corporations within their respective districts: those appointed for the county of *Devon*, were *Sir Coplestone Bampfylde*; *Sir James Smith*, and *Thomas Walker*, Esquire; (the two latter were representatives for the city, in parliament, and had greatly distinguished themselves by able speeches in the house;) *Sir Edward Seymour*; *Sir Thomas Berry*; *Sir Courtenay Pole*; *Sir Peter Prideaux*, and *Sir Henry Ford*.

1662. The Mayor elect refuses to accept the office.

*John Martin*, Esquire, being elected Mayor, refused serving the office; of this, notice being given to the King, he commanded him on his allegiance to accept the same, to which he assented, and executed it with reputation and honour.

Two new receivers were chosen and sworn successively to qualify

qualify themselves for serving the office of Mayor: the like precedent was pursued in the following year, for the same purpose. CHAP. IV.

The road in Paris-street † being much out of repair, and full of noisome and dangerous pits, was repaired and paved, under the inspection of the Mayor, *John Butler, Esquire.* A. D. 1663.

On the 23d of March, war was declared in this city, against the states of *Holland*, with the usual solemnities, by the Herald at arms, preceded by the Lord Lieutenant, (the Mayor being deceased and no other elected in his stead) Aldermen &c. and attended by a troop of Horse with four silver trumpets, and other martial music. 1664. War declared against the Dutch.

The public walk on *Northernhay*, having been ruined in the late civil wars, the fine elms cut down, and the scite (again) converted into an outwork, or counterscarp of the casile, it was now levelled, new gravelled, upwards of 200 young elms planted, ‡ and seats erected. Northernhay walk new made.

A new burial place being much wanted, the lower end of *Southernhay-green* was enclosed with a brick wall, at the expence of the Chamber, and solemnly consecrated on 28th October, (for that purpose) and dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, by *Bishop Ward*. Southernhay burial ground fenced and consecrated.

King *Charles*, forgetting the obligations he lay under to the Presbyterians, for the great share they had in promoting his restoration, prevailed on the parliament, in the year 1662, by the persuasion of his ministers, to pass an act of uniformity in religion; and which was this year, tacked to the corporation act, and again passed both Houses: by this, all persons holding offices either in Church or State, were obliged to qualify themselves by receiving the communion according to the Church of *England*; and this act being put into force with great rigour, many learned and worthy men, who refused compliance, were deprived of their livings, and cruelly persecuted, by fines and imprisonment. Dissenting clergy persecuted.

Among those ejected in this city were, *Ferdinando Nichols*, *Ministers* *B. D. Thomas Ford*, *A. M. Alexander Hodges*, *A. M. Thomas Downe*, *A. M. Thomas Powel*, *A. M. Robert Atkins*, *A. M. and Mark Downe*, *A. M.* By this act they were forbid to preach or pray in any private conventicle, under the following penalties: for the first offence, a fine of 5*l.* or three months imprisonment: for the second, 10*l.* or six months imprisonment; Penalties on Dissenting ministers.

† This road is now kept in repair, at the expence of the Parish of St. Sidwell.

‡ Some of the elms planted at this time are still standing *in situ*, and are a great ornament to the walk, from their majestic height, bulk, and agreeable shade.



- CHAP. IV. imprisonment; and for the third offence, transportation to some of the American plantations.

A collection made and sent to London, &c. for relief of the poor.

A large contribution of several hundred pounds collected from the voluntary contributions of the citizens of *Exeter*, was sent to *London*, and different towns, which were infected with the plague, towards the relief of the poor: and for the better preventing the spreading of this dreadful calamity, should it visit this city, a pesthouse was purchased, in an airy and detached situation, near the city, with proper conveniences for the reception of patients who might be visited with this malady.

King's arms, at the entrance of the haven re-erected.

The King's arms which had been placed at the entrance of the new canal or haven (on the point of land, from thence termed, *King's arms point*,) having been demolished during the late usurpation, another was erected at the expence of the Chamber.

A. D. 1665.

On the last day of February, war was declared in this city, against the *French*.

A great fire at Bradninch.

The greatest part of the town of *Bradninch* having been consumed by an accidental fire, a voluntary contribution was made by the citizens of *Exeter*, towards the relief of the distressed inhabitants of that town.

1666.

Great fire in London.

A dreadful fire, on the 2d September this year, having destroyed the greatest part of the city of *London*, the sum of 270l. 19s. was collected in this city, and sent, towards the relief of the poor, who were reduced, by this circumstance, to the greatest distress.

1667.

The old lines and outworks to the city walls, upon *Southernhay*, were levelled, and laid out into pleasant walks, on which, upwards of 200 young elms were planted in different rows.

1669.

A fire in the High-street.

On Midsummer eve this year, and about midnight, a fire was discovered in the stable of the Blue Anchor Inn, near *St. Lucies'-lane*, § in the High-street, which raging violently, consumed several stables and outhouses, with many horses that were therein, and greatly endangered the whole neighbourhood, but providentially by the exertions of the inhabitants, it was happily prevented from spreading its ravages.

A large Sturgeon taken in the river Exe.

In the month of June a Sturgeon was taken, by an inhabitant of this city, in the river *Exe* (opposite the red rock, or *Good-man's-well*, on this side *Topsham*) which measured nine feet and half in length, and six feet in girth.

1670.

The King visits this city.

A new Citadel having been built at *Plymouth*, his Majesty came by water, to view it: and, on his return to *London*, taking this city in his route, he was received by the Mayor, Chamber,

§ Now *Gandy's-lane*.

Chamber, and incorporated trades, at the West-gate; and after the usual solemnities of presenting the city regalia, keys of the gates, &c. he was conducted to the Deanry, where he lodged that night. During his stay, the Mayor, aldermen and members of the Common-council were admitted into his presence, and had the honour of kissing his hand: he also knighted the Mayor, *Benjamin Oliver, Esq.* The next morning he pursued his journey.

On the 7th of February this year a sudden fire happened about midnight, without the Westgate, which destroyed four houses, and most of the inhabitant's goods: three persons, viz. *Thomas Hayne*, his *Wife* and *Niece*, a girl of seventeen years of age, perished.

On the 16th of April, war was proclaimed against the Dutch.

The King, when on his visit to this city, having promised (as a testimony of his regard) to present it with a portrait of his Sister, the late *Dutchess of Orleans*, \* sent it down agreeable to his word, in a rich gilt frame, and which, with that of the late *General Monk*, was fixed up in the Guildhall.

A number of beggars and idle people infesting the streets of the city pointed out the utility of a public *work-house*; and as several sums of money had been bequeathed by different benefactors, for employing and setting the poor to work, the same was now taken into consideration; and in addition to the said benefactions, a general contribution among the citizens, enabled the Trustees to erect a convenient *work-house* at the end of *Paris-street*; † by which the streets were cleared from the nuisances complained of, the incorrigible punished, and the aged, with the infant and industrious poor relieved.

The

\* This amiable Princess was poisoned, as plainly appears from a letter of the Duke of *Montague*, then ambassador at the Court of *France*, wherein he says that *Madame the Dutchess* being at *St. Cloud* on Sunday 29th June, 1670, with a great company, called, about 5 o'clock in the afternoon for a glass of *Chicory*, or *Succory* water, which was prescribed for her as a drink, she having found herself for two or three days after bathing much indisposed: that she had no sooner drank it, than she cried out "I am dead," fell into *Madame Masebourg's* arms, and desired to be put to bed; then sent for her Confessor: she continued in the greatest agony imaginable till 3 o'clock in the morning, when she died.

† This *work-house* (after the building of the present one) was used as a *Bridewell* for the city: after which it was converted into an Infirmary, by the name of the *Exeter Hospital*; but being united to the present *Deon and Exeter Hospital*, the house, &c. was converted into a manufactory for weaving *Tapestry*, under the protection of his Royal Highness the *Prince of Wales*; but not meeting with due encouragement, it failed; and the premises are now occupied by poor tenants.

A. D.  
1671.  
A fire without Westgate: 3 persons burnt.  
War proclaimed against the Dutch.  
The King sends his sister's portrait to this city.

CHAP. IV. The street of *St. Sidwell's* from *Eastgate* to *St. Ann's chapel*, was paved at the expence of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, they being Lords of the manor: part of the city wall (near the new burying ground on *Southernhay*) 90 feet in length and 30 feet in height fell down suddenly, in the night, but without hurt to any one; and was rebuilt at the expence of the Chamber.

A. D.  
1673.  
St. Sidwells  
new paved.  
Part of the  
city walls  
falls down.

*Mrs. Elizabeth Flay*, widow of *Thomas Flay*, Esq. bequeathed by Will, a silver bason and ewer, partly gilt, to the Chamber, for the use of the Mayor of this city, and his successors, for ever.

Tho. Walker Esq. elected a member of parliament.  
A scarcity of corn.

*Thomas Walker*, Esq. † an alderman of this city, was elected one of its representatives in parliament, in room of his father deceased.

A great scarcity of corn happening at this time, and the price increasing, the Mayor, *Isaac Maudit*, Esq. procured the sum of 300*l.* with which he provided a public granary, from whence Wheat, ready ground was sold to the poor at a much less price than they could purchase it in the markets.

1674.  
A house in  
St. Sidwells  
falls down 2  
people killed.

About 7 o'clock on the morning of December 29th, the house of *Richard Jewell*, in the parish of *St. Sidwell's*, suddenly fell down; by which the said *Jewell*, was dangerously hurt, and his wife and grand child were killed on the spot.

*Sir William Courtenay*, of *Powderham Castle*, was made a freeman of this city.

1675.  
The Duke of Albermarle visits this city,

An Act of parliament having been passed for the better regulating of the militia, his Grace *Christopher Duke of Albermarle* (son of the late *General Monk*) Lord Lieutenant of the County of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*, came here for that purpose and during his stay (which was upwards of three weeks) lodged at the Deanry, where he kept a plentiful table, and gave free entertainment to all visitors. He twice honoured the Mayor's table with his presence, and was elegantly entertained; he accepted the freedom of the city: and for this purpose went to the Guildhall, and there took the accustomed oath: his Grace was attended by *Sir Edward Seymour*; *Sir Copplestone Bampfylde*; *Sir Arthur Northcote*; and *Sir Hugh Ackland*, Baronets; *Sir John Rolle*; and *Sir William Leach*, Knights of the Bath; *Sir Thomas Daniel*; *Sir William Wallrond*, and *Sir Henry Ford*, Knights Batchelors, with

accepts the freedom, & takes the accustomed oath.

† There are two descendants from this gentleman, who, at this present time (1801) fill the important offices of Justices of the peace, and aldermen of this city; viz. *Edward Walker*, Esq. (brother-in-law to the Right Honourable Earls *St. Vincent* and *Viscount Hood*;) and *Benjamin Honeycombe Walker*, Esq. a Captain in *Colonel Wright's Regiment of Exeter Volunteers*.

with several other gentlemen of quality; who were likewise complimented with their freedom, and sworn accordingly, CHARJY.

The Wharfrage of the city quay (which had heretofore been farmed by lease) reverted into the hands of the chamber; and by the indefatigable diligence of *Mr. Henry Smith*, receiver-general, the navigation to the city was much improved; by cleansing the river, cutting a new feat through the marshes, about half a mile in length, and enlarging the pool; making it so capacious that 100 sail of ships may safely ride therein: by this means, vessels, which before were often detained upwards of a fortnight, waiting for the spring tides, could now daily pass up and down, to the great advantage of the merchants and others; and thus abated the price of conveyance of goods, nearly one third. The quay, and adjoining island, The navigation of the river greatly improved. were also levelled, and encompassed with a strong wall, alongside which ships may lie with great convenience, either to discharge, or take in their cargoes. A new custom-house was built on the quay, with convenient offices and cellars for storing goods. In these works, the chamber expended upwards of 3,000*l.* exclusive of the great benefactions received from different wellwishers to the undertaking, among whom ought not to be forgotten, the *Rev. Dr. George Carey*, Dean of the Cathedral, who was a most liberal benefactor. The Quay levelled, &c.

The town of *Tangier*, on the coast of *Africa*, near the straits of *Gibraltar* (part of the portion received by the King, with his Queen *Catherine of Portugal*) being besieged by the *Moors of Barbary*, a new regiment of Foot was ordered to be raised, as a reinforcement to that garrison, accordingly a commission was issued for that purpose to the *Duke of Albermarle*, and he appointed the city of *Exeter* to be the rendezvous, for assembling and training the said regiment; which, through the Duke's great influence in the said city and county of *Devon*, was soon completed, and honoured with the title of the King's own *Tangierene Regiment*. \* A. D. 1681.

At the Summer Assizes, this year, three poor, ignorant, and aged women, named *Temperance Lloyd*, *Mary Trembles*, and *Susannah Edwards*, were tried and convicted at the Castle, The 4th Regiment of foot raised in Exeter.

## Z

§ Now termed the Coal Quay.

\* This regiment, now known by the name of the King's own, or 4th regiment of Foot, (consisting at first, mostly of natives of *Exeter*, and the neighbouring country) were termed the *Exeter guards*, which epithet they never disgraced. They have ever been remarked for their steady discipline and valour, in the various actions in which they have been; and have, more than once, been honoured with the thanks of their King and Country.

1682.

Three women tried, & executed for witchcraft.

**CHAP. IV.** for witchcraft. The evidence against them was direct and positive, which was confirmed by the confessions of the prisoners themselves, who acknowledged that many parts of the accusation against them, were true. This confession, which nothing but their own weakness of mind could have induced, or the most consummate ignorance could have believed, was the only ground of their conviction, and even at the gallows, the poor deluded wretches, assented to its truth. They were natives of *Bideford*, and were executed at *Heavitree*, on August 25th, 1682, and were the last sufferers under the detestable statutes, enacted, against the supposed crimes of sorcery, and witchcraft, in this County. †

A. D.  
1683.  
The King  
demands  
the city  
charter.

The unbridled licentiousness of the King, and the ill government of his ministers, created great discontents among his subjects, and it seems they reached this city: for this year, his Majesty by a *quo warranto*, demanded a surrender of the charter, which was accordingly delivered up; and in the following year (1684) a new charter was granted, by which the following gentlemen were nominated and appointed, viz.

*James Walker Esquire, Mayor.*  
*Thomas Gibbon Esquire, Recorder.*

ALDERMEN.

Henry Smith.	Robert Dabynott.	John Cholwich.
Endymion Walker.	George Saffin.	Christopher Bale.
	John Snell.	

*Edward Cross Esquire, High Sheriff.*

COMMON COUNCIL MEN.

John Carwithen.	John Gandy.	Edward Dally.
Malachi Pine.	Richard Pidgaley.	William Jope.
Hump. Leigh.	John Matthew.	Trist. Bowdidge.
Christopher Coke.	Charles Alden.	Thomas Potter.
	Thomas Hill.	King

† The particulars of this extraordinary trial, which made a great noise throughout the country, was printed and published, and the nature of the evidence, may be seen from the following extract of *Elizabeth East-chant*, one of the principal witnesses. "The said informant upon her oath, saith, that upon the 2d day of July, the said *Grace Thomas*, (one "of the persons supposed to have been under the power of *witchcraft*;) "then lodging in this informant's husband's house, and hearing her "complain of great pricking pains in one of her knees, she, this infor- "mant, did see her said knee, and observed she had nine places in her "knee, which had been pricked; and that every one of the said pricks, "was as though it had been the prick of a thorn; whereupon this in- "formant upon the 2d of July, did demand of the said *Temperance* "Lloyd, whether she had any wax or clay in the form of a picture, where- "by she pricked and tormented the said *Grace Thomas*; unto which the "said *Temperance* made answer, that she had no wax or clay, but confessed "that she had only a piece of leather, which she had pricked nine times."

King *Charles* died on the 5th February, 1685, † and was succeeded by his only surviving Brother, *James, Duke of York*; who was accordingly proclaimed King, in this city, on the 9th of February.

CHAP. IV.  
A. D.  
1685.

## MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of CHARLES II.

1661.	1665.	John Baker.
<i>Henry Gandy.</i>	<i>Nicholas Isaac.</i>	1670.
John Acland.	Peter Hagedot.	<i>Sir Ben. Oliver, Kt.</i>
Benjamin Oliver.	John Collins.	Chris. Broderidge.
George Knowling.	Fran. Maypowder.	Peter Risdon.
George Shapcote.	Edward Cheeke.	John Cholwich.
1662.	1666.	Edward Heckman.
<i>John Martin.</i>	<i>John Acland.</i>	1671.
<i>Isaac Mauditt, declined.</i>	James Slade.	<i>William Sanford.</i>
<i>John Butler, ditto.</i>	Endymion Walker.	John Parr.
Alan Penny.	Robert Dabynot.	Francis Kingwell.
George Tuthill.	John Somers.	John Warren.
John Gibbons.	1667.	Thomas Edmonds.
Andrew Quash.	<i>Thomas Walker,</i>	1672.
1663.	Benjamin Oliver.	<i>Henry Gandy,</i>
<i>John Butler.</i>	John Sparke.	John Collins.
Stephen Olivean,	John Carwithen.	William Bodley.
<i>declined.</i>	Samuel Calle.	William Cove.
Anthony Salter, do.	1668.	Abisha Brocas.
Nicholas Isaac.	<i>George Tuthill.</i>	1673.
John Gandy.	William Sanford.	<i>Isaac Mauduit.</i>
Benjamin Beard.	Robert Davy.	Wm. Glyde, jun.
Henry Smith.	Joseph Mauduit.	Henry Cudmore.
1664.	Edward Cross.	Humphrey Leigh.
<i>Alan Penny, Ob.</i>	1669.	Edward Hill.
<i>Anthony Salter.</i>	<i>Peter Hagedot.</i>	1674.
George Tuthill.	Isaac Mauduit.	<i>Chris. Broderidge.</i>
John Parr.	Hum. Levermore.	Andrew Quash.
Robert Buckland.	George Saffin.	
Richard Hooper.	Z 2	Nicholas

† Great suspicion was held that the King was poisoned; as the prevailing party at Court would not allow the Surgeons who opened the body, a sufficient time to examine his stomach and intestines; and, but a few hours after his death, such an offensive smell came from the corpse, that the attendants were obliged to leave the room: a circumstance very extraordinary in one of so healthy and vigorous a constitution.

**CHAP. IV.** Nicholas Trype,  
Simon Trobridge.  
Job Beard.

1675.

*John Parr.*  
Henry Smith.  
Fran. Worth, Ob.  
Thomas Smith.  
John Pearce.  
John Lee.

1676.

*William Hyde.*  
Thomas Bale.  
Daniel Gundry.  
George Sanford.  
Joseph Boson.

1677.

*George Tuthill.*  
Endymion Walker.  
Robert Hutchins.  
John Boyland.  
Thomas Barons.

1678.

*William Sanford.*  
Robert Dabynott.  
Simon Gandy.  
Edward Dally.  
Thomas Horn.

1679.

*John Collins.*  
George Saffin.  
Philip Cheeke.  
Peter Battishill.  
Thomas Gould.

1680.

*Henry Smith.*  
John Snell.  
Roger Cheeke.  
Gilbert Yard.  
Andrew Bowman.

1681.

*Isaac Mawditt.*  
Charles Alden.

*John Carmithen.*  
Wm. Southmead.  
Nathanael Gist.

1682.

*Endymion Walker.*  
John Cholwich.  
Richard Ridsley.  
Wm. Bolithoe.  
Arthur Glanvill.

1683.

*Chris. Brodridge.*  
Christopher Bale.  
Edward Seaward.  
John Case.  
William Jogg.

1684.

*James Walker.*  
Malachi Pync.  
Benjamin Ivis.  
Roger Mallack.  
Thomas Boyland.

A. D.  
1685.  
James 2d.

*King James* ascended the throne amidst the greatest acclamations of his subjects, and was crowned on the 23d of April, 1685.

In his first speech from the throne, he declared, "that he was determined to defend and maintain the Church of England, and to preserve the government in Church and state, as established by law," and had he fulfilled this promise, he would have prevented the miseries which afterwards befell himself and his family; but his well known predilection for the Popish religion gave just grounds to his subjects to doubt his sincerity; and therefore, before he was settled on his throne, a rebellion broke out in *Scotland*.

Duke of  
Argyle raises a rebellion in  
Scotland,  
is taken  
prisoner &  
beheaded.

The Duke of *Argyle* (who had been banished in the late reign) landed in *Scotland* with a small force, which was joined by many zealous protestants, amounting to near 3000; with this reinforcement he erected his standard, and declared his intentions of supporting the Protestant religion; but government receiving early intelligence of his designs, he was defeated, taken, and beheaded.

This commotion was no sooner over, than another broke out in *England*, when the Duke of *Monmouth* (a natural son of

of the late King) landed at *Lyme* on the 11th June, accompanied by near 100 officers and gentlemen, and bringing with him, arms for 5000 men: as soon as his little troop were got on shore, he published a declaration which charged the king with burning the city of *London*, of poisoning his brother (*King Charles*,) and of his intentions to introduce Popery into this kingdom. This declaration brought numbers of the middling and common people to join his standard; and he soon found himself at the head of 6000 men, whom he regimented, though he could not completely arm. Four days after his landing, he marched to *Arminster*; to which place, the *Duke of Albermarle* (who had hastily assembled the Militia of the county of *Devon*) was marching from *Exeter*, with 4000 men: *Monmouth* having taken possession of, and fortified the avenues, the King's troops retreated in great confusion back to *Exeter*.

CHAP. IV.

Duke of  
Monmouth  
lands at  
*Lyme*,

and pro-  
ceeds to  
*Arminster*;

On the 18th June, the *Duke of Monmouth*, (instead of pursuing the fugitives §) marched for *Taunton*, where he was received with great acclamations, and testimonies of joy: in this town he was proclaimed King, and thence proceeded to *Bridgewater*, where he was also proclaimed by the Mayor (Mr. Alexander Popham;) but this epitome of royalty was of short duration.

marches to  
*Taunton* &  
is proclaimed  
King;

The King's troops having collected together under the command of the *Earl of Feversham*, a general engagement took place on *Sedgemoor*, near *Bridgewater*, in which the Duke was defeated and taken prisoner; and being carried to *London*, was beheaded.

is defeated,  
taken prisoner  
and beheaded.

This ill timed rebellion (though greatly instrumental in promoting the glorious revolution) proved fatal to numbers of the Duke's unhappy followers. That monster of cruelty, Lord Chief Justice *Jefferies* was sent into the West with a special commission of Oyer and Terminer, to try the delinquents, attended by a body of troops under the command of Colonel *Kirk*, a barbarian like himself: they proceeded to the greatest acts of cruelty, sparing neither age nor sex. In the course of their circuit they condemned above 500 persons; 289 were executed, 80 of whom, suffered in *Exeter*: and their mangled quarters were exposed on trees in the public roads, to the great annoyance and terror of passengers.

Lord chief  
Justice *Jefferies*  
cruel-  
ty.

The Right Honourable the *Earl of Bath*, on being appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*, was presented with the freedom of the city: and the following

A. D.  
1686.  
The Earl of  
Bath & the  
Earl of  
*Dartmouth*  
admitted to  
the freedom  
of the city.

§ The Duke has been much blamed for not pursuing the fugitives to *Exeter*, as he might easily have taken it, and provided his men with sufficient arms and stores, of which they were much in need.



CHAP. IV. year the *Earl of Dartmouth* was admitted to the same privilege.

A. D.  
1687.

The King  
sends a  
mandamus  
for remo-  
ving the  
Mayor, &c.

The King listening entirely to the advice of his popish counsellors, stretched the royal prerogative to the utmost, and, by the unjust decisions of his courts of Justice, alienated the affections of his subjects, which occasioned a general discontent.

Among other stretches of his power, he sent a *mandamus* to this city, for removing the Mayor and other officers, and appointing others in their room: the letter was couched in the following terms,

*James Rex,*

New Mayor,  
&c. ap-  
pointed.

Trusty and well beloved, We greet you well. *Whereas* We have, by our order in council, thought fit to remove *John Snell*, Esquire, from being Mayor, and one of the Aldermen of that our city of *Exeter*: *George Saffin*, *John Cholwich*, *James Walker*, and *Henry Smith*, from being Aldermen; *Christopher Coke*, from being one of the Sheriffs, and of the common council; *Humphrey Leigh*, *Charles Alden*, *Thomas Potter*, *Nathaniel Gist*, *Malachi Pine*, *Edward Dally*, *John Carwithen*, and *William Joyce*, from being of the common council; and *Richard Rous*, from being Sword bearer of our said city: We have thought fit hereby to will and require you forthwith to elect and admit Our trusty and Well beloved *Thomas Jefford* Esquire, to be Mayor and one of the Aldermen; *George Tothill*, Merchant, *William Glyde*, Gent.; *Edmond Starr*, Merchant, and *Thomas Atherton*, Merchant; to be Aldermen; *Richard Cunningham*, Gent. to be one of the Sheriffs, and of the common council; *John Curson*, Receiver, and of the common council; *John Starr*, Merchant; *John Pym*, Merchant; *John Boyland*, Merchant; *Robert Buckland*, Vintner; *Jeremiah King*, Grocer; *Robert Tristram*, Merchant; *Tobias Allen*, Merchant; and *Hugh Bidwill*, Fuller; to be of the common council; and *Joseph Bradshaw*, to be Sword bearer of our said city, in the room of the persons above-mentioned; and *Humphrey Bowden*, Fuller; to be one of the Aldermen, in room of *Endymion Walker*, deceased, without administering to them any other oaths, but the usual oath for their executing of their respective places, with which we are pleased to dispense in this behalf; and for so doing, this shall be your Warrant; and so we bid you farewell.

Given at our Court at *Whitchall*, this 28th day of November, 1687, in the third year of our reign.

By his Majesty's Command,

SUNDERLAND.

To our Trusty and well beloved, the Deputy, Recorder, Aldermen, Common council men and Freemen of the Corporation of the City of *Exeter*.

On

On the 24th January, 1687, *Mr. Jefford*, \* the Mayor, was desired by the then Chamber, to surrender into his Majesty's hand, the former Charter, which was done accordingly; and on the 27th March, 1688, the new charter was first executed; and the new Mayor Knighted by the King.

CHAP. IV.  
The city  
charter sur-  
rendered.

On the 27th September following, the King's mandate was sent down, to elect and continue *Sir Thomas Jefford*, to be Mayor of this city, and *Richard Cunningham*, Esq. to be Sheriff, for the year ensuing; in the following words:

*James Rex,*

27 die Septembris, 1688.

Trusty and Well beloved, We greet you well. *Whereas* We are well satisfied of the loyalty and ability of our trusty and well-beloved *Sir Thomas Jefford*, Knight, the present Mayor, and *Richard Cunningham*, Esq. the present Sheriff of that our city of *Exeter*; We have thought fit hereby to require you to elect and continue him the said *Sir Thomas Jefford* to be Mayor, and the said *Richard Cunningham*, Esq. to be Sheriff of our said city, for the year ensuing, with all the rights, profits and advantages thereunto belonging, without administering to them any oath or oaths, but the usual oath for the execution of their respective places, with which we are graciously pleased to dispense in this behalf; and for so doing this shall be your warrant; and so We bid you Farewell. Given at our Court at *Windsor*, this 27th day of August, in the 4th year of our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

SUNDERLAND.

The King now threw off the mask by his public profession of the *Roman* Catholic religion, and in order to reconcile his three kingdoms to the Holy see, he sent the Earl of *Castlemain* ambassador to the Pope; he likewise (the better to answer his purpose) dispensed with several of his officers and counsellors from complying with the Test act; and by the advice of his popish ministers laid aside the penal laws and sent a circular letter to the Bishops, with orders to prohibit the inferior clergy from preaching upon controverted points

A. D.  
1688.

The King  
endeavours  
to restore  
the Papal  
religion.

\* *Sir Thomas Jefford* was very skilful in his profession of a Dyer, by which he accumulated a large fortune: but being ambitious and aspiring to honours, procured himself the civic chair of this city, which he enjoyed but a short time. There is a tradition that, having dyed a piece of fine broad cloth, blue on one side, and crimson on the other, he presented it to the King, who was so much pleased with it, that he ever after held him in great esteem. *Sir Thomas*, with the other members of this new created chamber, were presbyterians: which seems to be the reason for the King's dispensing with the usual oaths of qualification.

**CHAP. IV.** points of Divinity; he also published a declaration granting liberty of conscience to dissenters of all denominations, which declaration he ordered to be publicly read in all the churches and chapels; several of the Bishops refusing to comply with this order, the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and six other Bishops, † were committed prisoners to the Tower of *London*; but being tried in the Court of King's Bench were acquitted, (to the great satisfaction of the people.) Those acts of oppression, and the apprehension of again being subjected to the superstition and tyranny of the Court of *Rome*, entirely

The people uneasy.

The Prince of Orange invited over

sets sail from Holland:

and lands at Torbay.

He lays at Ford house.

alienated the affections of his subjects; and the episcopalians uniting with the dissenters, resolved to set the Prince of *Orange* on the Throne. Several noblemen, and other persons of distinction, went over (on various pretensions) to the *Hague*, to consult with the Prince of *Orange*, and to desire assistance in rescuing the nation from the impending dangers which now hung over it; to this his Royal Highness consented, and accordingly set sail from the *Brill* in *Holland*; and on Monday the 5th of November, 1688, the fleet consisting of fifty capital men of war, twenty-six frigates, twenty-five fireships, and about three hundred transports and storeships, came into *Torbay*, the Prince was on board a new ship of thirty guns, whose flag was the *English* colours, with this motto: "*The protestant religion and Liberties of England*," and underneath "*I will maintain it*;" he then hoisted a red flag at the mizen-yard-arm, and proceeded to make good his landing, which was accomplished without any opposition; the people welcoming and hailing him as their deliverer, bringing in all necessary provisions both for man and horse, for which they were honestly paid their demands; the Prince the same day sent a Captain to search *Tor Abbey* (and other houses inhabited by papists) for horses and arms. ‡

The Prince's army, consisting of near 30,000 well armed, and disciplined troops, were safely landed by Tuesday afternoon, and their baggage, ammunition, and stores were sent to *Topsham* by water, from whence they were brought strongly guarded to this city. On Wednesday the 7th, the Prince came to *Ford House* (near *Newton Bushel*), where he was most

† One of these Bishops was *Sir Jonathan Trelawney*, then Bishop of *Bristol*, but afterwards of *Exeter*: a native of *Cornwall*; and his confinement greatly exasperated the *Cornish* men.

‡ A popish priest residing at *Tor Abbey* discovering the fleet, and the white flags on some of the men of war, concluded it was a *French* fleet come to the assistance of King *James*, against the Prince of *Orange*; and (transported with joy) ordered all the family to repair to the chapel, to sing *Te Deum*, for the arrival of the *French*: but he was soon undeceived, and laughed at; for his mistake.

most hospitably received and entertained, by order of the noble owner *Sir William Courtenay*, where he lay that night; at *Newton Bushel* he was met by a Clergyman, who preceded him to the market place, where he read the *Prince's* declaration, which was received with every demonstration of joy.

The same day Captain *Hicks* with a party of horse came to *Exeter*, where great numbers flocked to him to enlist themselves in the *Prince's* service, which the Mayor hearing of sent for him, and questioned him if he had a commission for what he did; to which he would return no direct answer, nor give any account of the *Prince's* designs; for this contempt, he was ordered to prison; but the populace who were assembled in great numbers about the Guildhall, would not permit his being carried away; therefore he was suffered to remain in the Hall under the custody of two constables; and was amply provided for (during his short confinement) by the Mayor's orders. Thursday the *Lord Mordaunt*, and Dr. *Burnet*, (afterwards Bishop of *Salisbury*) with four troops of horse, came to *Exeter*; when they arrived at the Westgate, they found it shut against them; upon which *Lord Mordaunt*, ordered the Porter to open the gate on pain of death, § which being presently done he required him, on the same penalty not to shut it again; as soon as they were entered the city, *Lord Mordaunt*, went to the Guildhall and set Captain *Hicks* at liberty; that afternoon *Lord Mordaunt*, and Dr. *Burnet*, waited on the Mayor requesting him to meet the *Prince* at the gate, and govern the city under him, which he absolutely refused, and told them he was under the obligation of an oath to his Majesty, and desired that the *Prince* would lay no commands on him that should be prejudicial to his conscience; and after some further debate on the matter his Lordship departed much dissatisfied. All Thursday the soldiers continued to enter the city; and on Friday the *Prince* came with his guards, who continued marching through the city, to the adjacent villages, and towns, without ceasing for the space of three hours; the *Prince's* public entry into *Exeter*, was very magnificent and conducted in the following manner. The Right Honourable the *Earl of Macclesfield*, with two hundred horse; most of whom were *English* nobles and gentlemen,

CHAP. IV.

Capt. Hicks comes to Exeter and enlists men in the Prince's service, is ordered to prison, but is rescued by the people.

Lord Mordaunt comes to this city.

The Mayor refuses to meet the Prince, or govern the city under him.

The Prince of Orange arrives.

His entry into Exeter.

§ There is a tradition, that, the Porter refusing to open the gate, *George Tuthill*, Esq. one of the aldermen, opened it, and admitted the troops; and that he afterwards, meeting with great losses at sea, was much reduced in his circumstances, which coming to the knowledge of the *Prince* after his advancement to the throne, he gratefully rewarded him with a pension of 200*l.* per ann.

**CHAP. IV.** gentlemen, richly mounted on *Flanders Steeds*, completely clothed in bright armour.

Two hundred negroes (attending the said gentlemen) had on embroidered caps, lined with white furs, and plumes of white feathers; two hundred *Finlanders*, clothed in beavers' skins, in black armour and with broad swords; fifty gentlemen and as many pages, to attend and support the *Prince's* standard; fifty led horses all managed and broke for war, with two grooms to each horse; two state coaches; the *Prince* on a milk white horse, in a complete suit of bright armour, a plume of white Ostrich feathers on his head, and forty two footmen running by his side; two hundred gentlemen and pages on horseback; three hundred *Swiss* guards armed with fusées; five hundred Volunteers with two led horses each: the *Prince's* guards, in number six hundred, armed Cap-a-pie; the rest of the army brought up the rear; they had fifty waggons loaded with cash, and one hundred and twenty pieces of cannon.

On the road his Highness was met by great multitudes of people who welcomed him by loud huzzas and acclamations, the same was done at *Easter*, where the streets were thronged, and the windows filled with joyful spectators; he was conducted to the Deanry which had been prepared in a hasty manner for his reception, and where he kept his court during his residence in this city; and by his affability, and the strict discipline and good behaviour of his troops, gained the esteem of all ranks of people. \*

The Prince keeps his Court at the Deanry,

goes to the Cathedral.

Dr. Burnet Preaches.

The magistrates of Exeter, &c. backward in declaring for the Prince of Orange.

After taking some refreshment, the *Prince* went to the Cathedral to render thanks to Almighty God for his safe arrival, when being seated in the Bishop's Throne, the Choir sung *Te Deum*, and after divine service, Dr. *Burnet*, read the *Prince's* declaration. On Sunday he again attended divine service at the Cathedral, when Dr. *Burnet* preached; the text was taken from the last verse of the 107th Psalm, "*whose is wise will ponder these things and they shall understand the loving kindness of the Lord.*" Notwithstanding this kind reception the *Prince* met with from the middling and lower class of people, the magistrates, and clergy, were very backward, particularly in this city, where only alderman *Tuthill*, and one other member of the chamber, declared in his favour; it was likewise the same with the gentlemen of the county of *Devon*; not one of whom joined his standard except Mr. *Burvington*,

\* Bishop *Lampugh*, on the news of the *Prince's* approach, left the city in a great hurry, and repaired to the King (by whom he was advanced to the Archbishopric of *York*) and was soon after followed by the Dean, and most of the resident clergy.

*Burrington*, of *Simpford* (a Major of the Militia) who came CHAP. IV. to him on the Monday, and was kindly received.

It does not appear that this backwardness proceeded from any ill motive or design to retard the *Prince* from proceeding on his expedition, but rather from a dread of its failure; they having had sufficient experience of the sanguinary disposition of the *King* and his Ministers, from the recent examples made of the unhappy followers of the late *Duke of Monmouth*, their mangled bodies being still exposed to their views.

The backwardness of the *Devonshire* gentlemen, damped the spirits of the *Prince*, and he had some thoughts of abandoning his design; but he was soon relieved from his anxiety, by the arrival at *Exeter* of the *Lord Colchester*, (who brought some of the *King's* troops with him) he was soon after followed by many other persons of distinction; and many gentlemen of the first quality in the county of *Devon* now repaired to his standard, who assembling together in the Cathedral at the instigation of *Sir Edward Seymour* (Recorder of this city) entered into, and subscribed the following association:

“ We whose names are hereunto subscribed, who have and enter into an association.  
 “ now joined with the *Prince of Orange* for the defence of  
 “ the Protestant religion, and for the maintaining of the an-  
 “ cient Government, and the Laws and Liberties of *Eng-  
 “ land, Scotland, and Ireland*, do engage to Almighty God,  
 “ to his Highness the *Prince of Orange*, and to one another,  
 “ to stick firm in this cause in the defence of it, and never to  
 “ depart from it, until our Religion, Laws, and Liberties,  
 “ are so far secured to us in a Free Parliament, that we shall  
 “ be no more in danger of falling under Popery, and Sla-  
 “ very. And whereas we are engaged in this common cause  
 “ under the protection of the *Prince of Orange*, by which  
 “ case his person might be exposed to danger, and the cursed  
 “ attempts of *Papists* and other bloody men; we do therefore  
 “ solemnly engage to God, and to one another, that if any  
 “ such attempt be made upon him, we will pursue not only  
 “ those that make it, but all their adherents, and all that we  
 “ find in arms against us, with the utmost severity of a just  
 “ revenge to their ruin, and destruction. And that the  
 “ execution of any such attempt, which God of his infinite  
 “ mercy forbid! shall not divert us from prosecuting this  
 “ cause which we now do undertake, but that it shall en-  
 “ gage us to carry it on with all the vigour that so barbarous  
 “ an action shall deserve.”

“ Given under our hands and seals, in the Cathedral  
 “ Church of *St. Peter, Exeter*, this 17th day of Nov. 1688.”

A a 2

This

The *Prince* had some intentions of retreating. *Lord Colchester* &c. comes to him. The gentlemen of *Devon* join his standard,

## CHAP. IV.

The King  
deserted by  
his Nobles,  
&c.

publishes a  
declaration  
which is not  
attended to.

The Prince  
of Orange  
marches for  
London.

The King  
escapes to  
France.

This association was speedily published throughout the country, and many Noblemen and others came to the *Prince*; whilst King *James* (who had assembled his army at *Salisbury*) finding himself daily deserted by many of his principal Noblemen, and Commanders who brought entire Regiments with them and joined the *Prince* at *Exeter*, now too late perceived his error, and published a Declaration promising to call a free Parliament, and to govern according to the Laws; but this Declaration was little attended to, and he found himself deserted by those he put most confidence in.

The *Prince of Orange* (thus encouraged) after a stay of twelve days, marched for *London*, † leaving the government of *Exeter* to *Sir Edward Seymour*, (the Recorder) and Colonel *Gibson* with a small garrison, in charge of his heavy artillery and stores, which on account of the badness of the roads, he was obliged to leave behind him.

Before the *Prince* left *Exeter* several thousands of men enlisted themselves in his service, and many thousands more would have followed their example, had they been permitted: but no occasion existed for their services. On the news of the *Prince's* approach, the King driven to despair, and not knowing whom to trust or confide in, left his army and returned to *London*; from whence on December 23d, he abdicated the government, and secretly made his escape to *France*, to which country he had before sent his Queen, and Son, the *Prince of Wales*.

Impartial historians all agree, that this unfortunate Monarch, was a kind father, a tender husband, a good master; and would have been a good King, had he not been misled by his wicked ministers: and that the religion he professed was the source of all his troubles; it being highly probable, that his reign would have been propitious, had he himself been a Protestant, or his subjects *Roman Catholics*.

## MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of JAMES II.

1685.	Edward Ball.	Daniel Ivie.
<i>Robert Dabynott.</i>	1686.	Edward Collins, X
Humphrey Leigh.	<i>George Saffin.</i>	Robert Foster,
William Sanford.	Christopher Coke.	
Issac Gibbs.		

1687.

† Previous to the *Prince's* departure, he caused the surrounding heights to be surveyed, intending to fortify the city, to secure his retreat in case he should be compelled so to do; but his engineers representing to him the almost impracticability of it, by the nature of the city's situation, he abandoned his design.

1687.

John Snell.  
John Gandy.  
John Burell.  
Rich. Peryam.  
Thomas Salter.

Removed by  
the King's  
Mandate.

1687.

Sir T. Gifford, Kt.  
John Curson.  
Anthony Vicary.  
William Atkins.  
Wm. Reynell.

Appointed  
in their  
places.

1688.

Sir T. Gifford, Kt.  
John Pym.  
John Harris.  
John Keese.  
Chris. Brodridge, reinstated.  
Christopher Bale, elected Dec. 8.  
Edward Seaward.  
John Case.  
William Jope.

Removed by or-  
der of the Privy  
Council.

1688.

The Charter restored  
Christopher Bale.  
John Gandy.  
John Dally.  
Henry Newcomb.  
Oliver Mostyn.

On the *Prince of Orange's* arrival in London the Peers then in Town, desired him to take the administration upon himself, till they should have assembled the Estates of the Kingdom, by the stile and title of *Convention*, which was summoned for the 22d of January, 1689. At this meeting the House of Commons declared the Throne vacant by the abdication of the late King, which being agreed to by the House of Peers, it was resolved to offer the Crown to the *Prince*, and *Princess of Orange*, and they accepting the offer were proclaimed in *London*, King, and Queen of *Great Britain*, on the 17th of February; and in this city (with the usual solemnity, and great acclamations of the inhabitants) on the Friday following. †

A. D.  
1689.

William 3d,  
& Mary 2d.

Before *King James's* abdication, he, in order to regain the lost affections of his subjects, issued a proclamation for restoring the charters of such cities, and towns, which he had deprived of them, excepting those only who had come into his measures by a voluntary surrender of their franchises, of which the city of *Exeter* was one; but, on the 5th day of November, 1688, the following order from the King was received, in this city.

King William & Queen Mary proclaimed in this city.

AT

† On this occasion there were great rejoicings in this city; the conduits ran with wine, and at night there were great illuminations; the populace almost mad with joy, insulted the houses of the *Papists*, and were proceeding to acts of violence, when a timely stop was put to them, by the interference of the Magistrates.



November 1st, 1688.

The City's  
charter re-  
stored.

*The King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.* "Whereas, in his Majesty's late Proclamation, issued, for restoring Corporations to their ancient Charters, Liberties, Rights, and Franchises, the ancient Corporation, and Body Corporate of the City of Exeter, is one of those therein excepted, upon a supposition, that the deed of surrender by them made to his late Majesty was recorded; but upon farther examination, and producing the said deed of surrender, it appearing that the same never was recorded, his Majesty in council, (designing the same benefit to the said City and the ancient Corporation thereof, as to other cities in the said Proclamation not excepted) in pursuance to the power reserved to his Majesty in the Charter of Incorporation lately granted to the said City, is pleased to order; and it is hereby ordered; that the Mayor, Sheriff, Recorder, Town Clerk, Aldermen, Common Council Men, and all and every other Magistrate, Officer, and Minister of, or in the said city, be, and they are hereby removed, displaced, and discharged of and from the said Offices, Magistracies, and Places; saving, and reserving to them and every of them, such Right, Privilege, Place, or Office, as they have, or lawfully may claim by the ancient Charter, or Franchises of the said City: and, it is further ordered, that the Mayor, Sheriff, Aldermen, Recorder, Town Clerk, Common Council Men, and all and every other Minister and Officer of the said City, that were such at the time of the sealing of the said Deed of Surrender, do take upon them the execution of their respective Offices and Magistracies, and proceed to make due Elections, and to act and do as they lawfully might if no such deed had ever been had or made."

## PHILIP MUSGRAVE.

The old  
Mayor re-  
instated,  
a new one  
chosen.

This order, on account of the dissensions occasioned by the revolution, was not immediately put in execution; but soon after *Christopher Brodridge, Esq.* was reinstated in the office of Mayor, and on the 8th of December, *Christopher Bale, Esq.* was elected for the residue of the year.

A regiment  
of foot rai-  
sed in Exe-  
ter.

The Kingdom of *Ireland*, espousing the cause of the abdicated King, a rebellion broke out, and most part of that Island (a few garrisons in the North part only excepted) declared in favour of *King James*: the French King sent a large army to their assistance, and therefore orders were sent to different parts of *England* for levying troops; and a commission for raising a regiment

regiment of foot being sent to *Exeter*, many gentlemen of the city, and the neighbouring country, accepting commissions therein, the regiment was soon completed and sent to *Ireland*, where they behaved with great bravery. §

The Right Honourable the *Earl of Danby*, was presented with the freedom of this city.

A. D.  
1692.

On the 29th of May great rejoicings were made for the glorious victory gained by the *British fleet*, over that of the *French King*, off *Cape le Hogue* in *Normandy*, on the 19th of this Month; in which the *French* lost nineteen of their largest ships besides their Admiral, and a great number of transports which were burnt; this fatal blow almost ruined the *French navy*, and put a stop to their invasion of this kingdom.

The French fleet destroyed at the battle of Le Hogue.

The utility of having the water from the river *Exe* conveyed to the houses of this city being taken into consideration by the chamber, an act of Parliament was procured, and an engine for that purpose erected (at the head of the new leat) on a very ingenious model; which, notwithstanding the elevated situation of the city, plentifully supplies (by the help of wooden pipes) such inhabitants, who, on the payment of an annual rent, are desirous of being furnished therewith.

1694.

The water Engine erected.

The bad state of the silver coin, requiring the interference of the Legislature, six new mints were established by act of Parliament, one of which was placed in this city; the chamber granting for that purpose part of *Hele's* (or the *Blue Maid's*) Hospital, where furnaces were erected, and an assay master, and proper officers appointed; in this mint a large quantity of silver was coined, all which may be distinguished by having the letter E placed under the bust.

1696.

A Mint established in this city.

*Queen Mary* died of the small pox, on the 28th of December, greatly regretted by the King, and the whole nation.

Queen Mary's death.

A Patent under the common Seal of this city, was granted to *James Duke of Ormond*, to be Lord High Steward thereof; he

1697.

§ In this *Irish war*, the *Rev. Mr. Walker* a native of this city, gave signal proofs of his bravery and zeal for the Protestant religion. The City of *Londonderry* being besieged by *King James* at the head of a numerous Army, and the garrison being deserted, most cowardly, by its governor; at the desire of the garrison and inhabitants, this gentleman took upon himself the government, and made a most remarkable and gallant defence, during the siege: in which the inhabitants were reduced by famine and sickness, to the greatest distress; he acted in a three-fold capacity, *preaching* in the morning, then presiding in judicial matters, and in the afternoon visiting the fortifications, exhorting the Soldiers, and oftentimes heading the sallies which were made on the besiegers; in short, by this exemplary conduct, and prudence, he prevented that important fortress from falling into the hands of the enemy; and preserved the North of *Ireland*. This gentleman was slain by a musquet ball at the battle of the *Boyne*, on the 1st of July, 1690, greatly regretted by *King William*, and all the Army.

**CHAP. IV.** he likewise was admitted to the freedom of the city. This year, on September 10th, the famous *Peace of Ryswick*, (which secured to *King William* the quiet possession of the three kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; as also the restitution of his principality of *Orange*) was signed; and on the 29th of the same month, *Peace* was proclaimed at the usual places in this city. Notwithstanding this treaty, so lately signed, the perfidy of *Lewis* the 14th (*King of France*) concerning the *Spanish* succession, again set *Europe* in a flame; and *King William* preparing to revenge himself on this perfidious monarch, was prevented by a fall from his horse, near *Hampton Court*, which occasioned his death on the 8th of March, 1702. The death of this Prince was greatly lamented by his Protestant subjects, as he was a zealous defender of both their civil, and ecclesiastical liberties, as well as the Protector of *Europe* from the encroachments of the perfidious *French* monarch

A. D.  
1702.  
Death of  
King Wil-  
liam.

On the death of the King, the Crown (by the act of succession) devolved to his sister-in-law, the *Princess Anne*, second daughter to the abdicated *King James*, and wife of *George*, *Prince of Denmark*.

The Trade  
of this city  
greatly in-  
creased  
through the  
revolution.

The city of *Exeter* enjoyed a share, with the rest of the British Empire, in the good effects of the revolution; its foreign trade greatly increased; and liberty of conscience being tolerated to christians of all denominations, encouraged many foreign merchants to settle here, which enlarged its correspondence, and opened new markets for its woollen manufactures, ships sailing every year with cargoes of woollen, and other goods, to most parts of the world, even to *Turkey* and the *West Indies*; and a Sugar-house, and a Glass-house were built between this city and *Topsham*, which employed a great many labourers, to the general benefit of the country.

**MAYORS and BAILIFFS** in the reign of *King William III.*

1689.	Richard Peryam.	1692.
<i>John Snell.</i>	Richard Pounsford.	<i>Christopher Coke.</i>
Edward Cross, re-	William Arnold.	William Bollithoe.
signed.	John Newcombe.	Richard Smith.
Gilbert Yard.	1691.	Roger Prowse.
Edward Bamfield.	<i>Edward Seward.</i>	Joseph Hussey.
John Pyle.	John Burell.	1693.
John Monkley.	Francis Lydstone.	<i>John Gandy.</i>
1690.	Joshua Hickman.	Daniel Ivie.
<i>Edward Cross.</i>	William Hibbert.	

Jo' 1

John Gandy, Jun.	Edward Cheeke.	Jacob Rowe.
James Kingwill.	William Carthew.	Philip Pear.
George Cary.	Richard Veale.	William Pitfield.

1694.

1697.

1700.

<i>Robert Dabynott.</i>	<i>John Curson.</i>	<i>John Snell.</i>
Isaac Gibbs.	George Yard.	John Newcombe.
Richard Atwill.	John Hornbrooke.	Nath. Dewdney.
John Vicary.	Thomas Bury.	Edward Allen.
Clement Weekes.	John Gilbert.	John Dell.

1695.

1698.

1701.

<i>Gilbert Yard.</i>	<i>John Burrell.</i>	<i>John Cholwell.</i>
John Monkley.	Edward Dally.	Oliver Moystein.
Edward Spicer.	William Gandy.	Robert Lydston.
Daniel Slade.	Christopher Gird.	Alex. Sampson.
Emanuel Hole.	John Bolt.	Thomas Robinson.

1696.

1699.

<i>Christopher Bale.</i>	<i>Joshua Hickman.</i>
Joshua Hickman.	John Gandy.

*Queen Anne* was proclaimed in this city, on March 13th, 1702; and immediately on her accession to the throne, declared her resolution of pursuing the plan formed by her predecessor, of curbing the exorbitant pride, and power of the French Monarch, and securing the liberties of *Europe* from his encroachments; accordingly a war (which was declared in this city, May 8th, 1702,) proved glorious to the *British nation*, as it was attended with an almost uninterrupted series of prosperities, victories, and triumphs; which humbled the pride of *France*, and almost annihilated her navy. The *Earl of Rochester* coming to *Exeter*, was complimented with the freedom thereof; during his stay (which was for several days) he was elegantly entertained by the Mayor. On the 26th of November, this year, about eleven at night, a terrible storm of wind arose, which did incredible damage throughout most parts of *England*, mostly on the coasts, where great number of ships were wrecked, and many thousands of men drowned; this hurricane continued with great violence until four o'Clock the next morning; in this city, many houses were unroofed, stacks of chimneys blown down, and trees torn up by the roots, particularly in *St. Peter's Church-yard*.

A. D.

1702.

Q. Anne.

War declared against France.

1703.

A great storm of wind.

B b

CHAP. IV. *yard, where a row of large elms, of near one hundred years growth, were mostly destroyed.\**

A. D.  
1704.

The beginning of September, this year, news arriving of the glorious victory obtained over the *French*, by the *Duke of Marlborough*, at *Blenheim*, occasioned great rejoicings in this city.

*Sir Edward Seymour*, Baronet, who had filled the office of Recorder of *Exeter* for many years, resigned it on account of his great age; and *Sir Nicholas Hooper*, Knight, was elected in his room.

1707.  
New Work-  
house built.

Description  
of the work-  
house.

In the year 1699, an act of Parliament was procured for the better employment, and maintenance of the Poor inhabitants of this city, and county, and the next year, a new Workhouse was begun, on an elevated and healthy spot of ground, in the parish of *St. Sidwell's*, which was carried on with such vigour, that in the same year, the central part of the building was finished; but the whole was not completed till the year 1707, at a very great expence to the citizens. This building forms a large quadrangle, open towards the South; the centre contains a handsome Chapel, terminated by a cupola, in which is a clock, and dial, convenient apartments for the governor, different offices for the use of the house, and spacious rooms for the meeting of Committees. The wings, which extend to a great length, are divided into Wards (or Ranges) which are kept clean, and wholesome, and are spacious enough to contain several hundreds of paupers; behind, are buildings designed for the better accommodation of those who, having lived in credit, are reduced through misfortunes to apply to their Parishes for relief. There are likewise workshops, and other conveniences, with a spacious Green in front, planted with rows of trees, where the poor inhabitants may both take the air and recreate themselves: a Chaplain is also provided, who preaches every Sunday, and reads prayers twice in every week, when each pauper, if not bedridden, is obliged to attend. The whole building, green, and gardens, are surrounded by a lofty brick wall, and at the time of its erection, was esteemed the first building of its kind in England.

Govern-  
ment of the  
Workhouse  
and Poor of  
*Exeter*.

The Government of this house is invested in forty citizens, who are termed, Guardians of the Poor, and are chosen at the different Wardmotes for life, (unless incapacitated through infirmity, or insolvency) by those inhabitants of their

\* The remaining elms were felled by order of the Dean and Chapter, for the sake of uniformity; and Lime Trees planted in their room; but these not thriving, most of them were grubbed up, and standing elms were planted.

their respective Wards who pay two-pence per week in their own right towards the Poor-rates; these, with the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, for the time being, are invested with full power of levying such rates on the different parishes, and precincts within the city and county, as the necessities of the Poor may require, which are collected by the different overseers, and paid to the Treasurer, who is annually elected by, and from the forty Guardians. This Body Corporate has the sole government, and management, of the Poor within the city and county of Exeter.

This year is memorable for an Institution which reflects immortal honor on its pious author, *Dr. Offspring Blackall*, Bishop of this Diocese: this worthy Prelate observing with great concern, that numbers of poor children in this city, and neighbourhood, either through the inability, or negligence of their parents, were bred up in a very illiterate manner, and without any instruction of their duty as christians either to God, or their neighbour, preached a Sermon on the occasion, in which he strongly recommended the duty of Charity, and the benefits occurring to the community at large, by rescuing from ignorance, and providing for the education of the children of their poor neighbours, and by erecting Public Schools for that purpose; his Lordship also sent a circular letter to the Clergy of his Diocese, exhorting them to promote this work of piety, and charity. This sermon was blessed with its desired effects; for the very next day, a great number of the inhabitants of the city, entered into a subscription for the institution of the charitable purposes therein recommended, and they were greatly assisted by the resident and other clergy, the Dean and Chapter granting towards its support, the money arising from a donation of *Chancellor Sylke's*, which was given for the purpose of maintaining lights in the Cathedral, during the afternoon service, from Allhallow-tide, to Candlemas. The Chamber also, greatly promoted this pious work, not only as individuals, but by a large benefaction from their public stock; and granted part of the Blue Maid's Hospital in *St. Mary Arches Lane*, for the use of one of the girls schools; thus, through the well timed benevolence of people of all ranks, and denominations, four schools were established in the city, two of which were appointed for boys, and two for girls; each consisting of fifty children. The Masters were allowed a salary of 30*l.* per annum, † each, with a convenient house of residence; and the Mistresses, 25*l.* with a house each: the boys are instructed in Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic,

A. D. 1708.

Charity Schools founded in Exeter through the instigation of Bishop Blackall,

and by the voluntary subscriptions of the citizens.

The Chapter great benefactors to the work,

likewise the Chamber.

B b 2

sq.

† The Salaries, I am informed, have been, since, augmented.

**CHAP. IV.** so as to qualify them for the middling ranks of life; and the girls are taught to Read, Sew, and Knit; they are all decently and comfortably new clothed annually at Easter, from head to foot, with the addition of new shoes, and stockings, every fifth day of November. They are furnished with Bibles, Common-Prayer, and Spelling books; and attend divine service at the Cathedral every Wednesday, and Friday, and on Festival days, at six o'clock in the morning, from Lady-day to Michaelmas, and are examined in their Catechism every Sunday evening.

The benefits of this well intended institution, have been happily experienced by the succeeding generations; many worthy characters have received their education through this charity, and by that means have risen to opulence and magistracy, who otherwise might have ended their days in poverty, and ignorance.

Benefactions to the Charity Schools.

At the first institution of these schools, the subscriptions and benefactions, amounted to about 250*l.* per annum; but since that, have been greatly increased by the care of the trustees, and by succeeding donations. The following benefactions having come to my knowledge; I cannot forbear mentioning them, in order to record the pious intentions of the donors. In 1712, *Mr. William Eakins* of this city, goldsmith, by his last Will and Testament gave 50*l.* per annum, for ever, to the charity schools, for the instructing boys, therein educated, in the mathematics, especially navigation. In 1713, *Mr. Nathanael Rowland*, Merchant, gave 200*l.* for the benefit of the poor children educated in these schools. In 1721, *Richard Sandford*, Gent. a native of *Exeter*, by his last Will, gave 300*l.* to be laid out in the purchase of an estate, the produce thereof to be appropriated to the benefit of the said schools.\*

A. D.  
1709.

The Right Honourable *Lord Poulett*, Baron of *Hinton St. George*, being appointed Lord Lieutenant of the County of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*, was admitted to the freedom of the city.

1710.

In this year, *Sir Coplestone Warwick Bampfylde*, and *John Snell*, Esquire, were elected Members of Parliament for this city.

1711.

The war with France now raged to such a height, and caused so great a loss of men, that recruits could not be procured to fill up the vacancies in the army, any otherwise than by the unconstitutional mode of pressing; and warrants for that purpose were sent to this city, which were executed by

A very hot press.

\* Many considerable benefactions to this charity, have from time to time, been given, too numerous to be mentioned in this work.

by the constables with such rigour, that they did not spare even the poor peasants, whose business brought them into the city, but forced them from their horses, and sent them away immediately; this was attended with very bad consequences to the citizens, as a general scarcity ensued, from the countrymen being thus deterred from bringing in the necessary supplies.

*John Harris*, and *Nicholas Wood*, Esquires, were elected representatives in Parliament, for this city.

A. D.  
1713.

The major part of the nation tired of a long, bloody, and expensive war, were clamorous for peace; and the Queen accordingly entering into negotiations for that purpose, a peace was concluded, and signed at *Utrecht*, on the 11th of April, 1713; which was proclaimed in this city with the usual solemnity, on the 30th of April following.

The Queen did not long enjoy the blessings of peace; she was seized with a kind of lethargy, and expired (to the great grief of her subjects) on the 1st of August, 1714; and on the same day, † *George*, Elector of *Hanover* was proclaimed King of Great Britain, &c.

1714.  
Death of  
Queen  
Anne.

#### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of QUEEN ANNE.

1702.

*John Gandy*.  
*Thomas Barons*.  
*William Battishill*.  
*Tho. Coplestone*.  
*Charles Knolles*.

1705.

*Thomas Barons*.  
*Edward Collings*.  
*Thomas Jeffery*.  
*Benjamin Brown*.  
*John Southcombe*.

1708.

*Edward Spicer*.  
*John Pyle*.  
*Thomas Townsend*.  
*Edward Edmonds*.  
*Philip Bishop*.

1703.

*John Newcombe*.  
*Edward Spicer*.  
*Trist. Whitehair*.  
*James Taylor*.  
*Will. Staplehill*.

1706.

*Nicholas Wood*.  
*Thomas Salter*.  
*Hugh Palmer*.  
*Benjamin Pearse*.  
*Samuel Symons*.

1709.

*Edward Collings*.  
*William Sandford*.  
*John Peryam*.  
*William Drake*.  
*Robert Dawe*.

1704.

*Gilbert Wood*.  
*Nicholas Yard*.  
*John Elston*.  
*John Stephens*.  
*Charles Yeo*.

1707.

*Edward Dally*.  
*Jacob Rowe*.  
*James Fortescue*.  
*Robert Mudge*.  
*Geo. Langworthy*.

1710.

*Thomas Salter*.  
*Nath. Dewdney*.  
*John Phillips*.  
*Anthony Tripe*.  
*Jasper York*.

1711.

† The 1st of August being the day of accession of the present Royal Family to the Throne, was for many years commemorated in this city, by the ringing of the Cathedral bells.



CHAP. IV.

1711.

1712.

1713.

*Joshua Hickman.*  
*Philip Pear.*  
*Edmund Cock.*  
*Henry Gird.*  
*Clem. Cheesman.*

*Jacob Rowe.*  
*William Gandy.*  
*Hugh Shortrudge.*  
*Charles Ford.*  
*Bernard Sampson.*

*John Newcombe.*  
*Nathanael Bussell.*  
*Arthur Culme.*  
*William Stabback.*  
*John Brutton.*

A. D.

1714.

George 1st.  
 Proclaimed.

On the receipt of the news of the death of *Queen Anne*, *George Lewis*, Elector of *Hanover*, was proclaimed in this city, on the 4th of August, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, in six several places, viz. at the *Guildhall*, in *St. Peter's Church yard*, the *Serge-market*, at the *Great Conduit*, *St. John's Bow*, and before the *New Inn*, in the *High-street*, with great solemnity, by a deputy Herald at arms, mounted on a stately horse, and dressed in his tabard, preceded by the Mayor, Aldermen, Common council-men, and the other city officers, in their scarlet and other robes, accompanied by the different incorporated trades in their respective livery gowns, with their banners displayed; whilst an innumerable concourse of spectators testified their joy by repeated acclamations. The day was spent in great rejoicings; and at night there were bonfires, and grand illuminations: the gentlemen of the chamber, and the principal citizens, at the invitation of the Mayor, met at the Guildhall, where they drank (in repeated bumpers of wine) to the health of his Majesty, and the rest of the Royal Family; and passed the evening in joyous festivity.

Great riots  
 throughout  
 the king-  
 dom.

At his Majesty's coronation, which was performed October 20th, rejoicings were made throughout the Kingdom, which were much disturbed by some factious persons, who committed great outrages; particularly in *London*, and *Bristol*, the rioters breaking windows, and pulling down several dissenting Meeting-houses: symptoms of the like kind appeared in this city, but the timely interference of the magistrates preserved peace and tranquility.

1715.

A new Parliament having been called, the election throughout the Kingdom were much contested, the nation being divided into two parties, which were termed High, and Low Church, or Country and Court. The contest was carried on amidst great tumult and acrimony; much blood was spilt from the broken heads and noses of the contending mobs: the dispute however was terminated in favour of the Blue, (or Country party) and *John Harris*, and *Nicholas Wood*, Esquires, were returned duly elected.

Sir William  
 Courtenay  
 appointed  
 Lord Lieu-  
 tenant.

About this time, the Honourable *Sir William Courtenay*, was appointed Lord Lieutenant, and *Custos Rotulorum*, of the

the County of Devon, and City and County of Exeter. The Duke of Ormond, Lord High Steward of Exeter, being attainted by Parliament, and withdrawing himself from this Kingdom, was deprived of his office; and his Royal Highness George, Prince of Wales being pleased to honour the city with his acceptance of it, a patent under the City's Common Seal, was granted for that purpose, which was presented to his Royal Highness by Sir Peter King, § (a native of Exeter,) Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

CHAP. IV  
His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, appointed Lord High Steward of Exeter.

The friends of the exiled family, now caused great commotions throughout the Kingdom, on which occasion the famous Riot Act was passed, which made it death for any tumultuous persons, to the number of twelve, to continue together for the space of one hour after Proclamation being made for their dispersing.

Riot Act passed.

The Jacobites, not being contented with sowing dissensions through the realm, broke out into open rebellion in Scotland, and the North of England; where they proclaimed the

A Rebellion in the North.

§ This great, and eminent Lawyer, was the Son of Mr. King, a reputable Grocer in the High-street of this city, who, designing his Son for the same profession, gave him but a slender education; and, at an early age, when he had attained but very little knowledge of the Classics, took him from school in order that he might assist in the business; but young King paying little attention to trade, and constantly employing himself in reading such books as fell into his hands, made the old gentleman uneasy; and he often complained to his acquaintance that his Son Peter would never be fit for any thing; however, the young man by a strong application to his studies attained such a degree of knowledge, that before he came to manhood he published several learned Treatises, which gained him the esteem of his friends, and they prevailed on his Father to send him to the University, where he studied Divinity; but wisely judging that study was an unlikely road to preferment, (he having been bred a Dissenter from the Established Church) he turned his thoughts to the study of the Common Law, in which he made such proficiency that he was soon called to the Bar, where he gained so much reputation that he was appointed Queen's Serjeant at Law; and from thence, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas; next, Lord Chief Justice, and afterwards, Lord Chancellor: his Lordship was also created by Patent, a Baron of this kingdom by the title of Lord King, and this honour is still enjoyed by his descendant the present Lord King. It has been reported by many aged people, who well knew the parties, that Mr. King, intending to visit his Son after he was created Lord Chancellor, being of a mercenary disposition, went on foot to London for that purpose; and, on his arrival, being directed to his Son's house enquired for Peter King: this so irritated the Porter (little judging by the meanness of his dress, the near affinity he bore to his Master) that he shut the gate against him, and a scuffle ensued betwixt them. His Lordship hearing the noise, and coming to the window, perceived his father whom he instantly recollected, and hastening to the door, he fell on his knees to ask his blessing, the sight of which so frightened the Porter that he fell on his knees, and humbly begged for pardon: this his Lordship, after severely reprimanding him for his insolence, granted.

**CHAP. IV.** the Pretender, King of *Great Britain and Ireland*; on which occasion the friends to the Protestant succession, entered into associations for supporting his Majesty *King George*; one for that purpose was agreed to, and signed by several hundred of the principal inhabitants, and merchants of this city, by the name of the Constitutional Society: this greatly strengthened the Protestant interest, and quelled the intended insurrection in the West; and on the 9th November, the rebels being defeated at *Preston*, in *Lancashire*, tranquillity was again restored.

An Association for supporting King George, formed in this city.

A. D.  
1716.

Bampfylde and Drewes' Election.

A great Frost.

1719.

A Camp on Clist Heath.

1721.

1727.

The Right Honourable *Lord Carteret*, was appointed Lord Lieutenant, &c. of the County of *Devon*, and City and County of *Exeter*. *Francis Drewe*, and *John Bampfylde*, Esquires, were this year, elected Members of Parliament for this City.

The close of the last year, and the beginning of this, were remarkable for a very severe frost; the *Exe* was frozen over for near six weeks, a stop put to all business, and many post boys and others, were frozen to death.

The nation was greatly alarmed at the vast preparations made by the *French*, for the invasion of England; and the government, in order to counteract their designs, fitted out a strong fleet, and sent many regiments of Horse, Foot, and Dragoons, into the West of *England*, three regiments of which came to *Exeter*, and encamped during the summer on *Clist Heath*.

A custom which had been long established, that of the Mayor and chamber's providing a public dinner for the Judges, and grand jury at the assizes, proving very expensive, was this year discontinued, and in lieu thereof, a present of wine is sent, and handsome lodgings provided for them at the Mayoralty house during their stay in this city.

His Majesty paying a visit this year to his electoral dominions, was seized with a lethargic disorder, which terminated in his death at *Osnaburg*, on the 11th of June, in the 68th year of his age; and he was succeeded by his only son, *George* Prince of Wales.

#### MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of GEORGE I.

1714.

1715.

1716.

*John Gandy.*  
*Tho. Coplestone.*  
*Hump. Bawden.*  
*William Davy.*  
*John Parsons.*

*William Sanford.*  
*John Philips.*  
*Richard Sanford.*  
*John Wallis.*  
*Philip Elston.*

*Nathanael Dewdney.*  
*Philip Bussell.*  
*Thomas Collings.*  
*Richard Jackson.*  
*Edward Martyn.*

1717.

1717.	1720.	1723.
<i>Philip Pear.</i>	<i>William Gandy.</i>	<i>Philip Bussell. ‡</i>
<i>John Elston.</i>	<i>Hump. Bowden.</i>	
<i>Sampson Hele.</i>	<i>William Bellew.</i>	
<i>Christopher Aunt.</i>	<i>Robert Bussell.</i>	
<i>James Rous.</i>	<i>Nicholas Lee.</i>	1724,
		<i>Humphry Bowden.</i>
1718.	1721.	
<i>John Burrell.</i>	<i>John Phillips.</i>	
<i>Arthur Culme.</i>	<i>Emanuel Hole.</i>	
<i>J. Newcombe, jun.</i>	<i>Thomas Bale.</i>	1725.
<i>John Kelly.</i>	<i>Matthew Spry.</i>	<i>Anthony Tripe.</i>
<i>Thomas Somerton.</i>	<i>John Southard.</i>	
1719.	1722.	
<i>Thomas Copleston.</i>	<i>Thomas Salter.</i>	
<i>Anthony Tripe.</i>	<i>Robert Lydston.</i>	1726.
<i>Nathanael Taylor.</i>	<i>Robert Lawe.</i>	<i>Emanuel Hole.</i>
<i>Nicholas Wood.</i>	<i>Robert Taylor.</i>	
<i>Lewis Potbury.</i>	<i>Robert Saunders.</i>	

His Majesty, King George the Second, was proclaimed in this City, on Friday the 23d June, 1727. On the 7th August the Parliament was dissolved, and a new one summoned: at the election in this City, parties ran to very great lengths, but after a smart contest, *Sir Coplestone Warwick Bampfylde, Bart.* and *John Snell, Esq.* were duly elected.

On the 14th March, the famous, but impolitic scheme of *Sir Robert Walpole*, for a general Excise, was brought into the House of Commons, which created a great tumult and discontent among the people. It was petitioned against by this and many other cities, and the bill was dropped, which caused great rejoicings.

In August, this year, war was declared against *Spain*.

This year commenced with a very severe frost, which has since been termed the *hard winter*: the cold was so very intense, that the fowls and fishes were frozen to death; the poor suffered much, many of them perished through the severity of the season.

Many worthy and benevolent Gentlemen, duly reflecting on the numerous accidents and disorders, to which the mechanics, and labouring poor are subject to; and the consequent distresses they suffer, from not having the means of obtaining medical advice, and assistance in cases of the

C c

greatest

‡ The list of Bailiffs from the year 1722, to anno 1753, being either lost, or were discontinued at the Town-Clerk's office during that period, the author is obliged to leave this chasm in the list, for which he humbly solicits the public's indulgence.

A. D.  
1727.

1733.

1739.

1740.

1741.

Devon and  
Exeter  
Hospital.

**CHAP. IV.** greatest need, were strongly influenced to provide a proper place of reception for such unhappy objects: accordingly, through the indefatigable industry of the pious, and benevolent, *Dr. Alured Clarke*, Dean of this Cathedral, a meeting was appointed at the Castle, to which were invited, all such who were willing to encourage so useful, and charitable an institution. The first meeting of Subscribers was held in the Chapter-house belonging to the Cathedral, 23d July, 1741, when a chairman and treasurers were elected, and many subscriptions and benefactions reported.

Hospital.

*John Tuckfield, Esq.* (one of the worthy Representatives for this City,) generously accommodated the Governors with a convenient piece of ground, (situate at the lower end of southernhay,) and all the materials on it, for erecting the Hospital, for though it was thought necessary, that those lands should be formally purchased of *Mr. Tuckfield* by the Governors, it was really a *Donation*; he very generously giving back the whole price fixed on, as the consideration in the deed of conveyance, and was therefore recorded by a general court of Governors as the *most generous Founder* of this institution. On Thursday the 27th August, 1741, the foundation stone was laid in a very solemn manner; on which occasion, a great number of Gentlemen, Benefactors to this Charity, assembled in the Chapter-house, (where several meetings respecting this institution had been held,) from whence they went in procession to southernhay, where a party of soldiers were drawn up, who saluted them with three volleys of small arms. The stone was then laid by *Dean Clarke*, assisted by *Humphrey Sydenham, Esq.* member for this City, and other Gentlemen, who acted as proxies for *John Tuckfield, Esq.* in presence of several thousand of spectators. The ceremony being ended, the Dean made an excellent and solemn oration on the occasion, offering up his prayers to the Almighty for success in the undertaking, recommending to those who were in affluent circumstances, the duty of assisting the poor in time of sickness, and exhorting the poor to be obedient to their superiors, and grateful to their benefactors. The Cathedral, and other bells were rung on the occasion, and general gladness prevailed amongst every class of people. The Building was carried on with great alacrity, and the Hospital was opened, with thirty beds, for reception of patients, 1st January, 1742-3. Thus, by the zealous endeavours of this excellent Divine,\* the *Devon and Exeter Hospital* justly owes its foundation; an institution which will always reflect honor on its promoters. Its benefits having been so great, that before Lady-day,

1805,

\* He had before been instrumental in the foundation of an Hospital at Winchester, in 1736.

1805, upwards of *forty-two thousand* Patients have been restored to the blessings of health; and nearly *ten thousand* more, received considerable benefit.

CHAP. IV.

Hospital.

This Hospital, through the Donations of many charitable persons, and the care of the Governors, has received great additions, and the beds for patients have, at several times, been augmented. In 1748, they amounted to 100. It does not come within the compass of this work to point out all the particular times when additions and improvements were made in the institution to the year 1790, when 184 beds were open for the reception of Patients; In 1796, owing to the reduced state of the finances, no less than 43 beds were obliged to be shut up; but in 1797, a ward containing 9 beds; in 1799, another of 10 beds; and in 1802, a ward in which there were 6 beds, were again re-opened, which made the number for accommodation of Patients to be then 166. This establishment continued until the present year, 1805, when it was found necessary to examine into the state of the finances of this institution, and a select Committee of Governors was appointed for that purpose; in consequence whereof, a report was made by them to a general Court, held on the 13th June, that on examining into the alarming state of the funds, they found the expenditure, on an average, for the last seven years, had exceeded the income annually 391*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* though the average number of In-Patients, during that period, had been only 140. In consequence of this report, it was reluctantly but unanimously resolved to reduce the Patients' beds to 120. The Report of the select Committee and the Resolution of the general Court being published, a considerable number of Nobility and Gentry, and particularly those within the County of *Devon* and this City, came forward with large Donations, many volunteer companies devoted one day's pay, friendly societies of labouring mechanics for support of sick members, &c. made their contributions. The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Exeter (who gave a handsome Benefaction himself,) sent a circular letter to all his clergy within *Devon* and *Exeter*, in which his Lordship requested them, to preach in each of their churches a sermon, as soon as possible; exhorting their hearers, by every motive they could urge, to support, by their liberal and voluntary contributions, so excellent and truly Christian Institution. An eminent dissenting Minister of the City of *Exeter*,† likewise sent a circular letter, on the same occasion, to the Ministers of the different meeting-houses in the county of *Devon*. The contributions in consequence whereof were liberal beyond expectation,

C c 2

† Rev. James Manning.

\*

## CHAP. IV.

Hospital.

pectation, and the Governors were, on the 10th September, § enabled to devote 140 beds to the reception of Patients. Besides the In-Patients, there are a great number of Out-Patients, (sometimes there have been upwards of 200,) who are relieved with advice and medicines gratis. Prayers are read in some ward by one of the resident Clergymen in *Exeter*, who, in weekly rotation, give their attendance. The Physicians, and Surgeons (who give their advice gratis,) regularly visit the Patients under their care; and the Apothecary (who resides in the house,) attends every sick person daily, and administers such medicines as are ordered by the Physicians: in short, nothing is wanting for the comfort and relief of the objects under their care.

A. D.  
1744.

On the 4th of April, 1744, a war was declared in this City, against *France*.

1745.

An alarming rebellion broke out this year, in *Scotland*, which threw the whole kingdom into great consternation: the young Pretender having landed in that kingdom. Many associations were formed, for the support of his Majesty and the present Government, at the hazard of their lives and fortunes: but the retreat of the rebels into *Scotland*, and their total defeat on the 16th April, 1746, by the *Duke of Cumberland*, at the battle of *Culloden*, put a stop to the apprehensions of the people, and restored domestic tranquillity.

His Majesty, in return for the loyalty of the citizens of *Exeter*, was graciously pleased to send them a letter of thanks, couched in the warmest terms.

His Majesty on the 18th June, dissolved the parliament, and a new one being summoned, *Humphrey Sydenham* and *John Tuckfield*, Esqrs. were duly elected for this City.

On April 19th, 1748, preliminary articles of peace were signed by the contending Powers, and in July following, the definitive treaty was concluded, to the great joy of the whole Nation; great celebrations were made here on the occasion, splendid Fire-works were exhibited on the Friars, at the expense of *Mr. Claude Passavant*, an eminent merchant, to the amount of 500*l*.

1752.

An act was this year passed, for the more speedy execution of murderers, and delivering their bodies to the Surgeons to be anatomized; the first person executed on this act in *Exeter*, was *Mr. Huish*, a gentleman of some fortune, who had served an apprenticeship in the city, with *Mr. Arundel*, a capital serge-maker; but turning out very wild, and undutiful to his parents (who lived at *Cheriton-Fitzpayne*,) he was accused of poisoning his father, and beating his mother

§ A motion was this day made for establishing a Fever Ward, which being seconded, after some discussion was withdrawn.

ther to death; the first of these crimes he was acquitted of, on his trial; but found guilty of the second, for which he was executed at *Heavitree-Gallows*, and his body sent to the *Devon and Exeter Hospital*, where it was anatomized; his bones remained there in the cupola, for many years (a striking example to all paricides) 'till they mouldered into dust.

The King this year dissolved the parliament, and writs were issued for electing a new one; the contest in this city ran very high; great opposition being made against *Humphrey Sydenham, Esq.* one of the representatives in the last parliament, on account of the decisive part he took, in carrying in the Bill, and voting for the naturalization of the Jews; consequently he lost his election, and *John Tuckfield* and *John Rolles Walter, Esquires*, were duly returned.

A great riot happened in *St. Sidwells*, where some evil disposed persons on the 10th of June (being the Pretender's birth day) decorated the sign of the *Poltimore Inn*, with *white roses*, which being judged a mark of disaffection to the government, some soldiers belonging to the 4th regiment of foot, (then quartered in *Exeter*) pulled down the sign post, with the obnoxious badges thereon; immediately a great tumult ensued, and many persons were severely hurt; but the Magistrates interfering, many of the rioters were apprehended, and committed to Southgate, and after being convicted of the said offence, were punished by fines, and imprisonments. About this time, also, several of the inhabitants making themselves foolishly conspicuous by wearing *white roses* on the 10th of June, were taken into custody; and one *Mark Farley* for printing a seditious song, was imprisoned in Southgate where he was confined for many years.

On the 1st of November, 1755, a most dreadful Earthquake happened at *Lisbon*, which laid that city in ruins, and destroyed upwards of 10,000 of its inhabitants; the news of which very much alarmed the merchants of *Exeter*, who had great connexions and property there; but their loss (which was very considerable) did not prevent them from expressing their Philanthropy, and entering into subscriptions for sending relief to the distressed inhabitants; accordingly two ships were sent from this port, laden with provisions, household furniture, and other necessaries, which arrived safe, to the great comfort of the afflicted Portuguese.

On Friday, the 22d of May, 1756, war was declared again in this city, against *France*.

The war having greatly encreased the price of provisions, and the poor being unable to purchase the necessaries of life at the advanced prices; subscriptions were opened in *Exeter*, and

A. D.  
1754.

1755.  
The great  
Earthquake  
in Lisbon.

1756.

1757.  
Provisions  
greatly ad-  
vanced in  
price,



**CHAP. IV.** and a considerable sum of money collected for their relief; large quantities of Wheat, Rice, and Flour, were purchased; and sold at the different Churches, to the poor, of the respective Parishes, at reduced prices, which greatly alleviated their distresses.

**A. D.**  
1758.  
Militia embodied at Exeter.

An Act of Parliament having lately been passed for forming a National Militia, it was this year put in force, and 1,600 men (the quota to be raised by the county of *Devon* and city of *Exeter*) were formed into four battalions; the head quarters of the Eastern Regiment was fixed at *Exeter* where they accordingly rendezvoused, and after being disciplined, marched under the command of their Lieutenant-Colonel *Sir Richard Warwick Bampfylde*, to *Tavistock*. The great benefit accruing to the Nation, from the establishment of a Militia, is evident; as it gives an opportunity of sending considerable bodies of our Regular Troops, on foreign expeditions.

An Act of Parliament for the better government of the poor.

1760.

March 23d, 1758, A new act of Parliament was passed, for explaining, and amending the act of the 9th and 10th of King *William* the 3d, for the better employment, and maintenance of the Poor of this city.

Parties run very high.

This year writs were issued for summoning a new Parliament; and a great contest ensued at the election for this city; the members in the late Parliament, *John Tuckfield*, and *John Rolle Walter, Esquires*, were opposed by *William Mackworth Praed, Esq.* and *Sir Thomas Sewell, Knight*, the two first were supported by the interest of both the Chamber and Church, and the High Church or Country party; the other by the Merchants (in general,) the Dissenters, and by those who were termed the Low Church; the contest ran very high and the opposite parties expressed the greatest acrimony against each other; at the beginning of the Poll, the mob in favour of *Messrs. Praed and Sewell*, got possession of all the avenues to the Hustings, and prevented the votes of the other party from Polling; the managers for *Messrs. Tuckfield, and Walter*, in order to counteract these unfair proceedings, very injudiciously sent into the country for their labourers, and dependents, who, to the number of 400 men, coming the next morning into the city, were armed with mopstaves, and took possession of the Guildhall; this so irritated some of the Merchants, that they sent a messenger to order up the crew of the *Exeter Greenland ship*, (then laying at *Lympstone*) and such other sailors as they could collect; these, to the number of between 50, and 60, parading into the city, with flags flying, and a drum beating before them, were soon joined by a large mob of the citizens, and proceeding

ing to the Guildhall, a desperate conflict ensued, the sailors falling on the poor ill-advised countrymen, beat them so desperately, that they were soon driven from their station, and forced to fly for shelter in every direction ; many of them were dangerously wounded ; and one of them (reported to be *M-. Tuckfield's* Gardener) died of his wounds. These disorders putting a stop to the election, an agreement was made by the contending parties, for proceeding in a more peaceable manner ; when the Poll again commenced, and at its final close, *John Tuckfield*, and *John Rolle Walter, Esquires*, having a very decided majority, were returned duly elected.

CHAP. IV.

Desperate  
conflict be-  
tween the  
contending  
mobs.

His Majesty *King George* the second suddenly departed this life, at his palace of *Kensington*, on Saturday morning, the 25th of October, 1760, greatly regretted by his subjects, by whom he was greatly beloved ; and the next day his grandson, *George Prince of Wales*, (our present most gracious Sovereign) was proclaimed in *London*, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*.

MAYORS and BAILIFFS in the reign of GEORGE II.

1727.

1731.

1735.

*John Elstone.**Ethelred Davy.**Matthew Spry.*

1728.

1732.

1736.

*Robert Lidstone.**Richard Vivian.**Samuel Symonds.*

1729.

1733.

1737.

*William Stabback.**Samuel Symonds.**Arthur Culme.*

1730.

1734.

1738.

*Nathanael Dewdney, John Newcombe.**Thomas Heath.*

1739.

CHAP. IV.

1739.	1746.	1753.
<i>Nicholas Blake.</i>	<i>Matthew Spry.</i>	<i>John Luckett.</i> <i>Joseph Elliott.</i> <i>Edward Walker.</i> <i>Nicholas Jackson.</i> <i>George Midgyett.</i>
1740.	1747.	1754.
<i>Nicholas Lee.</i>	<i>John Manley.</i>	<i>Nicholas Arthur.</i> <i>Richard Densham.</i> <i>John Flood.</i> <i>John Cave.</i> <i>Henry Flood.</i>
1741.	1748.	1755.
<i>William Newcombe.</i>	<i>Lewis Portbury.</i>	<i>Lewis Portbury.</i> <i>Richard Jackson.</i> <i>Benjamin Godfrey.</i> <i>William Ley.</i> <i>Thomas Brown.</i>
1742.	1749.	1756.
<i>Nicholas Medland.</i>	<i>Thomas Heath.</i>	<i>William Trosse.</i> <i>Samuel Pearse.</i> <i>Charles Pearse.</i> <i>Thomas Flood.</i> <i>John Williams.</i>
1743.	1750.	1757.
<i>Philip Elstone.</i>	<i>William Trosse.</i>	<i>Joseph Elliott.</i> <i>Samuel Dix.</i> <i>Thomas Dodge.</i> <i>Joseph Johnson.</i> <i>John Churchill.</i>
1744.	1751.	1758.
<i>John Hawker.</i>	<i>Nicholas Lee.</i>	<i>Richard Densham.</i> <i>Edward Walker.</i> <i>Chris. Burnett.</i> <i>James Grant, Jun.</i> <i>John White.</i>
1745.	1752.	1759.
<i>Francis Brayne.</i>	<i>Robert Dodge, Ob.</i> <i>Nicholas Lee.</i>	<i>Richard Jackson.</i>

Gregory

Gregory Jackson.	1760.	Edward Manly.	CHAP. IV.
John Gattey.	<i>Samuel Pierce.</i>	Matthew Skinner.	
Isaac Sercombe.	Jacob Rowe.	Moses Hern.	
John Hayward.			

King *George the third, (whom GOD long preserve to be a blessing to his subjects,)* was proclaimed in this city, on 29th October, with great solemnity and rejoicings. George 3d.  
A. D.  
1760.

The War, which had been glorious and successful on the part of the British Nation, whose arms were victorious in every quarter of the globe, was now terminated, and Peace was proclaimed; though not upon such terms as were satisfactory to the generality of the people. 1763.  
Peace proclaimed.

Twelve new almshouses, for poor decayed freemen, were built and endowed by the Chamber, on the city walls, near *Northgate*; these are comfortable habitations, consisting of an under and upper room each, with convenient places behind; supplied with water from the river; and the endowment consists of *Two Shillings and Six-pence weekly, to each poor resident.* Twelve new almshouses, built by the Chamber.

Soon after the settlement of the Peace, an act of parliament was passed, for laying a heavy tax upon Cider; which subjected both the grower, and dealer, in that necessary article, to the unconstitutional, and disagreeable visitation, of the Excise Officers; this tax caused a great murmuring in the Cider counties, and was likely to be attended with disagreeable consequences, most people expressing their dissatisfaction in very plain terms, particularly in this city; on the thanksgiving day for the Peace, when the Mayor went to the Cathedral according to custom, not a single member of the chamber attended him; and during the time of divine service, an Apple Tree, and empty Hogshead, decorated with black streamers, and lables inscribed, with, *Excise the first Fruits of Peace*, were paraded through the streets in a cart; and in the evening, those who illuminated their houses, had the same legend in transparent paintings. This tax, which at first, was estimated would produce 70,000*l.* per annum, the first year scarcely realized half that sum; but, in the next, which was more productive of fruit, about 50,000*l.* was raised by it. Many Farmers grubbed up their orchards, and it was feared the landed interest would be greatly hurt: strenuous endeavours were made to get the act repealed; and several well written tracts were published, strongly representing the consequences that would ensue, if it were not repealed, and forcibly reprobating it; one of which, written by *Benjamin Heath, Esquire*, Town Clerk of this city, described its fatal effects in the most poignant

Occasions great discontent in this city.

**CHAP. IV.** poignant language. Many petitions were sent to the House of Commons, and instructions to the Members for those places more immediately concerned, praying relief; and on the 31st January, 1765, at a meeting held at the Guildhall for that purpose, a petition was agreed to, and signed by the Mayor, the gentlemen of the Chamber, and most of the principal inhabitants. The *Right Rev. and Hon. Dr. Frederick Keppel*, who had for some time been appointed Bishop of *Exeter*; coming down about this period, and it having been reported that he had voted for the Cider Tax, was not received with the usual eclat; the mob hissed and insulted him, and one fellow had the assurance to throw an apple at his head.

A petition from Exeter, praying for a repeal of the Cider tax.

A. D.

1765.

The Bishop insulted.

A great fire near Northernhay style.

A terrible fire broke out on Friday the 6th of February, between the hours of 11 and 12, at night, at the Workshop of *Messrs. Harold and Cank*, Coachmakers, near *Northernhay style*, which in a short time, entirely consumed the shop and dwelling-house, with all their stock in trade, books of accounts, several new carriages, and most of the workmen's tools.

1766.

W. Spicer, Esq. chosen M. P. in room of Mr. Tuckfield.

The latter end of this year, died *John Tuckfield, Esquire*, one of the representatives of this city, in parliament. He was truly regretted by his constituents, from his upright conduct as a senator, his unbounded charity, and zealous attachment to the interest of his country. *William Spicer, Esq.* was elected, without any opposition, in his place.

Cider tax repealed.

The Ministry finding the Cider Tax not so productive as was at first imagined, listened to the great number of petitions which had been presented for its repeal; the request was acceded to, in this Session of Parliament, and there were great rejoicings in *Exeter* on the occasion.

Coins &c. found in St. Sidwell's.

In digging for the foundation of the present house, and workshops, of *Mr. Harold*, Coach-maker, opposite *Paris Street*, in a deep pit, surrounded with bricks, and covered over with stones, and loose earth, the workmen found some old plate, many gold, and several hundred silver coins, supposed to have been concealed there in the grand rebellion, as they consisted mostly of *James*, and *Charles 1st* coins: none being of a later date. The houses which formerly stood on this ground, were burnt in those troubles, and not again rebuilt. The Gentlemen of the chamber demanded them as *treasure-trove*, and recovered a great number of them.

1768. Improvements began in Exeter.

The spirit of improvement began now to manifest itself in this city, and it may justly date its beginning from the public spirit of *William Mackworth Praed, Esq.* who coming into possession of an estate in the *High-street*, (formerly the *Green Dragon Inn*, &c.) opposite *St. Lawrence's Church*, and finding

finding it in a ruinous condition, rebuilt the houses in a more modern stile; and, the want of a commodious room for holding public balls, assemblies, concerts, &c. being much complained of, the same gentleman built the *Hotel*, in *St. Peter's Churchyard*, in which he erected a large, and elegant room for those purposes. Before this period, the assemblies &c. were held at the *Vine Tavern*, in a very inconvenient, and irregular room, (*now Mr. Dyer's Library*,) and the concerts, in the hall belonging to the College of Vicars choral

The tower of *St. Mary Major*, § being in a ruinous state, and the upper part declining from the perpendicular, near two feet over its base, it was thought necessary to (prevent the accidents that might accrue from its fall) to take down the upper part of it, which was done to near 40 feet; and the present cupola erected in its place, and towards defraying the expences thereof, the parishioners sold five of their bells.

Tower of  
St. Mary  
Major partly  
taken  
down.

The great increase of wheel carriages making it necessary to improve the avenues into this city, and particularly that from the North, that ancient bulwark the *Northgate*,\* (which had often prevented the entrance of besieging enemies, withstood many a storm, and was, no doubt, erected in the *Saxon Era*,) was taken down, together with several houses without-side it; and in order to ease the declivity of the hill, the deep ravine without, was filled up, a lofty wall erected, the present road made, and a row of brick houses built on the left hand of the entrance into the city.

A. D.  
1769.  
Northgate  
taken down

The *Duke of Bedford*, who had made himself obnoxious to the people, by consenting (as reported) to a secret article in the late treaty of *Peace*, by which the *French* were allowed to import their silk and other manufactures, into this kingdom, on 19th July, 1769, paid a visit to this city, (the first after his appointment to the Lord Lieutenancy of the county of *Devon*, and city of *Exeter*) and was very ill treated by the populace; on coming out of the Guildhall, (where he went to receive the freedom of the city) the mob insulted him with

Duke of  
Bedford  
visits Exe-  
ter,

insulted by  
the popu-  
lace.

D d 2

hisses,

§ The reader will see a particular account of this ancient building, in the *Descriptive* part.

\* This gate, from its singular construction, bore evident marks of great antiquity; it had no flanking bulwarks, but projected from the wall, with two small curtains, in which were stairs that led to two guard-rooms, they had orillons for the defenders to discharge their missile weapons on any attacking enemy: on the top of the gate, was a square platform, with a lofty battlemented curtain. There were no remains of Armorial bearings, or sculptures, which is another proof of antiquity; on the top was, also, a Vane, which now surmounts the Wharfinger's office at the Quay. The interior was occupied as a public-house, which (from the darkness of its rooms) was, ironically, termed *Hell*.

**CHAP. IV.** hisses, so much, that the Mayor, (with his officers) were obliged to protect and conduct him to Bampfylde-House: from thence he went to the Castle, where he received fresh insult; from thence he proceeded in his coach, to the Cathedral; the Bishop, Clergy, and Choir, waited to receive, and pay him the customary honours, but, as soon as he alighted, there was great confusion, the mob rushed upon him, dispersed his attendants, and it was with extreme difficulty he got into the choir unhurt. They likewise insulted the Bishop; and the *Rev. Mr. Chanter Snow*, being infirm, was thrown down, and miraculously escaped with his life. His Grace, to escape the fury of the populace, went by a back way into the Bishop's Palace, where he remained until the evening, when the mob had dispersed.

A. D.

1770.

The city's charter renewed; and more Justices added to the quorum.

His Majesty, this year, was graciously pleased to renew and confirm, the privileges of this city. By his Charter, granted to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and commonalty of this city of *Exeter*, in the 10th year of his reign, dated 25th April, 1770, the Mayor, Recorder, and seven senior Aldermen, were made Justices of the Quorum.

New road to the castle. The foundation of the ancient drawbridge, and several roman coins discovered.

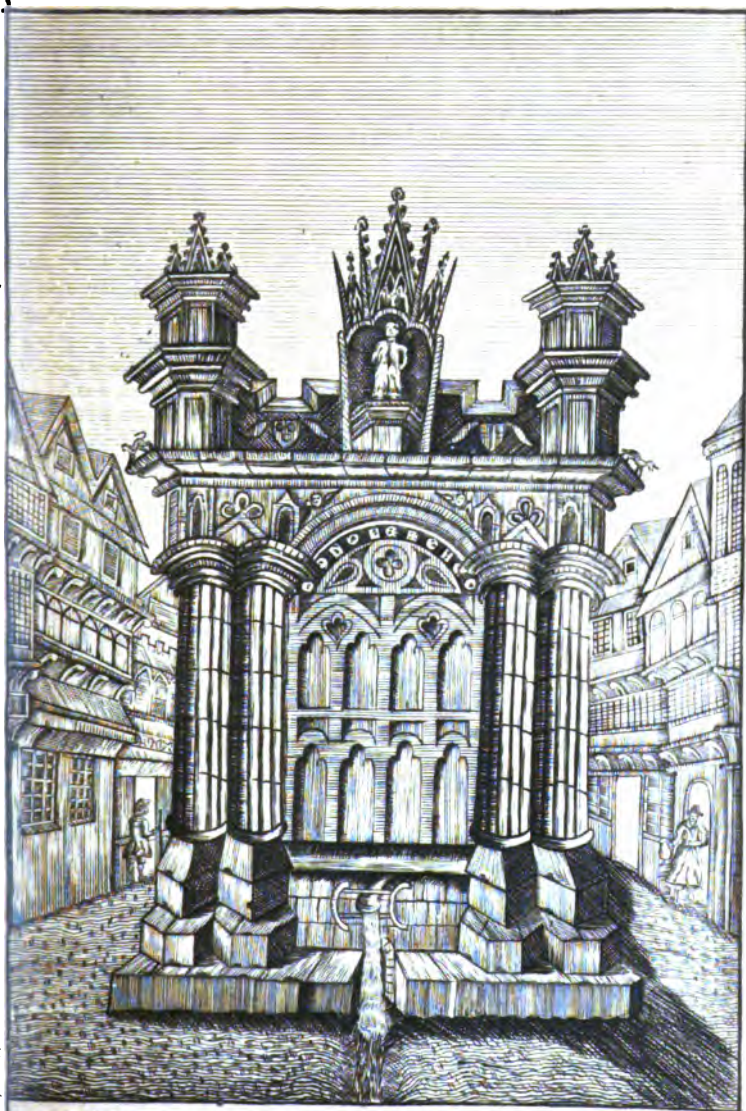
The passage from the *High-street*, to the Castle, being very narrow and dangerous for wheel carriages, the ancient avenue was again opened; several houses were taken down to enlarge it; and thus, a view of the venerable *Saron* entrance to the Castle (which, before, was obscured) opened to the *High-street*: the old gate was taken down, and a new one built, over which was placed a sham portcullis. In levelling the road, the foundation of the ancient Drawbridge which crossed the fosse was discovered; and the present gateway was built with the stones of it: several brass *Roman* coins were found, particularly, one of *Nero* two of *Constantinus*, and one of *Alectus* in good preservation.

Great conduit taken down.

The great Conduit at *Carfoix*, (venerable for its antiquity) which had been standing near 300 years, and had often poured wine to the rejoicing citizens, now fell a victim to modern improvers. Its situation in the centre of the *High-street*, not only intercepted the view, but frequently caused a stoppage of carriages, to the great inconvenience of the neighbouring inhabitants, and danger of passengers; for this reason sentence being passed upon it, it was taken down, and a new building erected, to which the cistern was removed. †

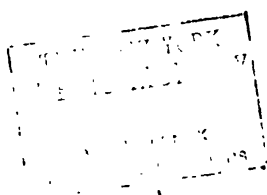
The

† This was originally a beautiful edifice, as may be seen by the annexed plate, (the drawing of which was taken, prior to its being demolished.) It was decorated with pinnacles at the four corners, on which were, (anciently) vanes; but they had long since fallen victims to time, and wea-



West View of the GREAT CONDUIT at Carfoix,  
*J. Hayman Del.* taken down 1770. *A. Jenkins Fec.†*





A. D.  
1770.

The intricate, and inconvenient entrance into the city over the *Old bridge* (by which all carriages, and travellers, were obliged to enter at *West Gate*, and, to avoid the steep ascent of *Fore-street hill*, proceed commonly by the way of *Rock-lane*) made an alteration absolutely necessary: accordingly a plan was drawn for building a *new bridge*, in a line from the bottom of *Fore-street*, across part of *Exe-Island*, a little above the old one; the expences to be paid by an additional toll at the Turnpikes. An Act of Parliament having been passed for this purpose, the first stone was laid 4th October, 1770, in the presence of many thousand spectators, by the Right Worshipful *John Floud, Esq.* then *Mayor* of the city of *Exeter*, under the direction of a *Mr. Dixon*, an Architect from *London*, and the building proceeded with great rapidity, when an unlucky accident put a stop to it: the arch on *St. Thomas's side*, was completely finished, and the greater part of the centre arch turned, when suddenly, a flood happening, the whole fell down, (owing to the negligence of the Architect in not having a proper foundation for the Piers, and not striking the centres, which pending back the water caused a great pressure on the Piers) and the *old bridge* must have shared the same fate, if timely precautions had not been taken, in clearing the arches from the wreck of the centres, which beat against them with great violence, and made the whole fabric shake. This disaster not only greatly increased the expence, but put a stop to the building, as it required much time to recover the stones which had fallen into deep water; *Mr. Dixon*, being discharged from the work, *Mr. John Goodwin*, who had been an assistant to the former, undertook to complete the work: well acquainted with the errors of his predecessor, he proceeded in a very different manner: he turned the course of the river by erecting a strong dam, and cutting a canal at the foot of the *old bridge*; and, to prevent the water from pending back, he caused another bay to be built below the first, and then, by the assistance of chain and other pumps, he effectually cleared the bed of the river, and laid a firm foundation on the solid rock. † In the

First stone  
of the new  
bridge laid.The new  
bridge falls.The build-  
ing again  
commen-  
ced,

course  
ther; also, niches in the East and West fronts, in which were mutilated statues. On the top of the architrave, at the corners, were two lions, and two unicorns (these must have been placed long after the erection of the edifice, as it is well known that the unicorn was substituted in the room of a dragon as a supporter to the British arms, by King James 1st) It was likewise adorned with cherubims, and armorial bearings, which were so much injured by time, that only those of the *Courtenay* family could be distinguished.

† The arches gave way, 16th January, 1775; and the first stone of the new foundation was laid, by the *Rev. Mr. Chancellor Nutcombe*, 15th July, 1776.

CHAP. IV.  
and finished.

The old  
bridge taken  
down.

A. D.  
1772.  
Twelve  
alms-houses  
built on  
Northern-  
hay.

1773.  
Bedford cir-  
cus built.

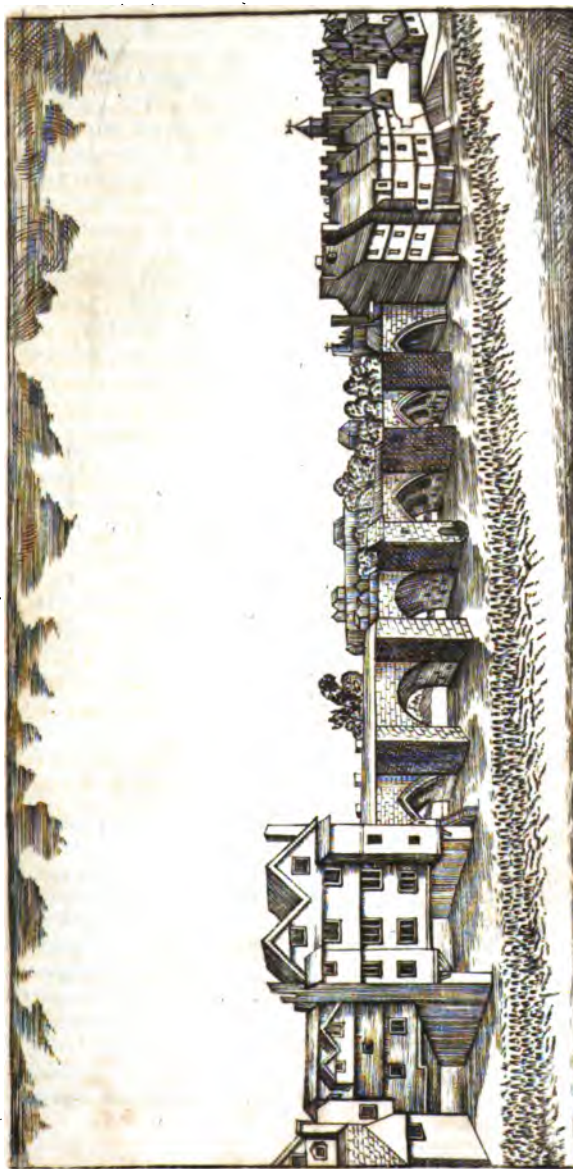
course of a few years the building was completed, to the great credit of the Architect, who had many difficulties to encounter. In some places it was necessary to elevate the ground, near 40 feet, in order to form a level; and arches were turned over the *Mill Leats*, and avenues into the *Island*, and *Bonhay*. At the bottom of *Fore-street*, directly in the way of the intended opening, stood the tower, and remains of the Parish Church of *St. Allhallows on the Walls*, § which was taken down: in short, though this undertaking was attended with the expence of near 30,000*l.* the great improvements made by it, counterbalances the expenditure, as the entrance from the West, (which was, before, infamous, and dangerous) now gives a view of the city, and neighbouring country, which can scarcely be paralleled at the entrance of any city, or town in this kingdom. As soon as the *new bridge* was completed, the greater part of the *old one* \* was taken down, as far as the houses at the Eastern end, and a road made from the *new bridge* to that part of the *old*, left standing, a great conveniency to such people as have occasion to go to the Southern parts of the city.

Some estates, which had long been withheld from the Chamber, falling into their hands, they, according to the Will of the Donor, erected twelve Alms-houses, neat and convenient, which at first they endowed with two shillings, but since, with four shillings, per week. They stand in a pleasant, and healthy situation, at the lower end of *Northern-hay*, and enjoy every conveniency, water being conveyed to them by leaden pipes from the river. On a Marble stone in front, is this inscription, “ For poor and impotent Woollen “ Manufacturers, by the charity of *Lawrence Attwell*, erect- “ ed, 1772.”

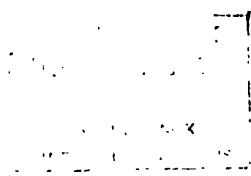
The ancient residence in this city, of the *Earls* and *Dukes* of *Bedford*, commonly called *Bedford-house* (formerly a Priory of *Benedictine Monks*, and granted at the Reformation to *John Lord*

§ This church was demolished in the siege of this city, by the parliament army, during the grand rebellion; and upon removing the foundation at this time, the remains of many human bodies, and fragments of inscribed tomb-stones, were dug up.

\* The old bridge, which consisted of thirteen pointed and irregular arches, (not two of which were alike) was similar to most ancient bridges, very narrow; and, had recesses on the piers: houses were at each end, (of which, those at the East are remaining,) and an open space was in the centre, where was a doorway, and a flight of steps, that led to a long vaulted room, commonly called the *Pixhay*, or *Fairy house*. There was a wattled wear below the bridge, to prevent the fall of water from injuring the foundation, which was of square stone laid on an innumerable quantity of oak piles, driven thick into the ground. Some of these, on being drawn up, were very hard, and black as jet.



*J. Eggon, Del. A South View of the Old Bridge, EXETER. A. Leinen, Fac.*



*Lord Russel,* which had been for many years let to different tenants, was now taken down, and the scite and gardens let on a building lease to *Mr. Robert Stribling*, of *Exeter*, Builder; who erected thereon the present regular, and elegant pile of building, called *Bedford Circus*, the first stone of which was laid 27th May, 1773. CHAP. IV.

In digging for the foundation, great numbers of human bones were dug up, with the foundation of a church, broken mouldings, fragments of sepulchral monuments, and other ruins of a sacred edifice, and its adornments; and, in the garden were discovered, some feet deep, several lead coffins, containing human skeletons; also a thick leaden box, or chest, within which were the remains of three or four human skulls, and bones. This discovery occasioned various conjectures, as there was not length enough for receiving a body. All these were emptied of their contents, for the small value of the lead, and the bones thrown among the rubbish, to the disgrace of humanity: a lasting odium must ever shade the name of a mercenary, unfeeling man!

Several antiquities,  
Lead coffins  
and human  
bones found

On the 7th November, 1773, died the learned, and facetious *Mr. Andrew Brice*, Printer, and native of this city; author of the laborious, and now highly esteemed work, "*Brice's Topographical Dictionary*," and several others; whose satirical vein of humour in his "*Mobiad, or Battle of the Voice*," (which strongly exposed, and reformed, many ridiculous customs of his fellow citizens) will for ever entitle his memory to esteem and gratitude. His remains were interred in *St. Bartholomew's* burying ground, 14th November, attended to the grave by many Lodges of his Brother Masons, and a great concourse of spectators.

Death of  
*Mr. Andrew Brice*,  
of *Exeter*,  
Printer.

The old Courts in the castle being very inconvenient, and greatly beneath the dignity of the large and opulent county of *Devon*, were taken down, and the present structure begun; the first stone of which was laid by the *Right Hon. Lord Viscount Courtenay*, 25th March, 1774.

A. D.  
1774.

New county courts  
built in the  
castle.

For holding the Assizes, County Courts, &c. during the time of building new ones, two temporary Courts were erected. They were afterwards taken down, as also the Chapel, and Castellain's house, when a new house and guard house were built; the area of the castle was levelled and gravelled, and the banks planted with young elms. In the course of these alterations, many *Roman*, and other coins, were found; human bones dug from under the foundation of the Chapel, and several other parts of the castle. Those venerable remains of ancient fortification, the *Donjon*, *Sallyport*, with its covered way, and *Square Tower*, (in which was a lofty gateway

Roman  
coins &c.  
found.

The Sally-  
port &c. de-  
stroyed.

**CHAP. IV.** gateway walled up) were taken down, greatly regretted by the antiquarians. The annexed print (the drawing of which, was taken before their demolition) will convey to the observer some idea of their ancient beauty and strength.

**A. D.**  
1774.  
Slight  
shock of an  
earthquake  
felt in Exe-  
ter.

On the 25th October, 1774, about ten o'clock in the evening, a slight shock of an earthquake was felt in this city. Its direction seemed from South to North; the tremulation of the earth lasted about two seconds, and greatly alarmed several families, particularly that of *Colonel Newton*, in *James's Street*, where, several doors were thrown open, and the house bells rang by the shock; it was also felt at the houses of *John Short*, Esq. and *Mr. Gibbs*, Surgeon, near *Palace gate*.

1775.  
American  
War.

In this year, the unhappy disputes between *Great Britain*, and her *American* colonies broke out into open hostilities; an event which involved this kingdom in a long, ruinous, and expensive war, that was most severely felt by the inhabitants of *Exeter*.

Mr Baring's  
first election

A long contested, and disputed election, for a representative for this city in parliament, between *John Baring*, and *John Burridge Chotwich*, Esquires, was determined, on 3d November, 1776, by a large majority in favour of *Mr. Baring*, who was accordingly returned duly elected.

Dreadful  
fire on the  
old bridge.

About this time, a dreadful fire happened at a house on the *Old Bridge*, used as a lodging-house for poor travellers. The fire breaking out in the lower part of the dwelling, and the doors being locked, the unfortunate lodgers had no way of escape; how many fell victims to the flames, was not known for a certainty, but nine bodies, shockingly scorched and burnt, were found in the ruins, and carried into *St. Edmund's Church*.

1779.

The *French* nation assisting the *American* colonies in their revolt, occasioned an open rupture between the two Nations; and the *Spaniards* and *Dutch* also joining in the confederacy, they made great preparations for an invasion of this kingdom. Accordingly the combined fleets of *France* and *Spain*, entered the *British Channel*, and appeared off *Plymouth*, whilst the *British Fleet*, by a strong easterly wind, were driven many leagues to the westward of *Scilly Isles*, and unable to work up the channel. The unusual appearance of an hostile fleet upon the *British Coast*, caused a great consternation; but the people soon recovering from their fright, and their ancient daring spirit reviving, every preparation was formed, to give the enemy a warm reception, should they have the temerity to attempt a descent; particularly at *Plymouth*, supposed to be their principal object, in order to destroy the Dock Yards, and

The combined  
fleets of  
France and  
Spain ap-  
pear off  
*Plymouth*.

and Naval Arsenals. All the troops that could be collected, were marched to that important fortress, and the *French, Spanish, and American* prisoners, upwards of 1300 in number, were ordered to be removed to *Exeter*, to which city they were conducted under a guard of Volunteers, collected together by *William Bastard*, of *Kitley*, Esq. who commanded them in their march. On this account, the greatest exertions of the citizens were requisite, no military force, except one company of the *Hereford* militia, (left behind sick, and unfit for duty, when the other members of the regiment marched for *Plymouth*,) being in *Exeter* at the time, therefore at a meeting called at the Guildhall, it was resolved that such as would voluntarily come forth to do military duty, should appear in the afternoon, on *Southernhay*, and there enroll themselves, ballot for their respective companies, and choose their officers; and so great was the spirit and loyalty of the citizens, at this alarming crisis, that upwards of 800 enrolled, were provided with arms, and formed into a regiment, under the command of *John Baring*, Esq. one of the representatives in Parliament, for *Exeter*. There being no fit place for the reception of such a number of prisoners, the county Justices generously gave up their *Bridewell* in *St. Thomas's* parish, which was fitted up for the purpose.

CHAP. IV.  
1300 French and other prisoners sent into Exeter.

On the arrival of the prisoners at *Alphington Cross*, they were met by two companies of the *Exeter Volunteers*, who were on that day appointed to do duty over them, and conducted to their respective places of confinement, the county bridewell, and some houses on *Alphington* causeway. These Volunteers having thus taken the charge of the prisoners, continued on duty during their stay, (which was for some time) with such care that not one escaped; and for this, on the removal of the captives, his Majesty was pleased to signify his approbation, by sending them his letter of thanks, which was read at the head of each company.

Citizens of Exeter form themselves into a Regiment, and do duty over the prisoners.

When the regiment was disbanded, some gentlemen of the city willing to continue their service, obtained his Majesty's Licence for forming themselves into a company of Foot; and being armed and clothed, at their own expence, they met for exercising themselves in military discipline, at stated times during the War.

The Parliament being dissolved, *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, Bart. and *John Baring*, Esq. were re-elected representatives for this City.

A. D.  
1780.

The American War was now terminated, and a general Peace ensued, to the great joy of all ranks of people.

1783.

In order to improve the entrance into the City, it was deemed

1784.

E e

Eastgate taken down.



**CHAP. IV.** ed expedient to take down *Eastgate*, by which a beautiful vista was opened from St. Sidwells into the High-street; a very great, and necessary improvement. †

1784.

Contested  
Election.

The King again dissolving the Parliament, there was a smart contest at the election for this City: the Candidates were *Sir Charles Warwick Bamfylde*, *John Baring*, and *James Buller*, Esquires; the poll lasted near four days; the two first gentlemen were returned duly elected.

1789.

His Majesty  
visits Exe-  
ter.

His Majesty making a tour through the Western Counties, intimated his design of visiting *Exeter*. Every necessary preparation was made, becoming the dignity of the City, for his reception; upwards of 300 of the principal inhabitants were sworn, as additional Constables, and the streets, from the end of *Paris-street*, to *Broadgate*, were railed in, and gravelled over. The Chamber at a great expence decorated the Guildhall with variegated lamps, and festoons of artificial flowers; and a grand Chair of State, (with a footstool) covered with Crimson Velvet edged with gold, was erected in expectation of their Majesties, honouring it with their presence. No expence was spared by the Chamber, to receive and welcome their beloved Monarch and his Family.

On the 13th August, 1789, about 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, their Majesties, with three of the Princesses, and suite, arrived at the bottom of *Paris-street*, where they were received by a party of Constables, who conducted them into the City, amidst an amazing number of Spectators. At *St. John's Hospital*, they were received by the Mayor, *Jonathan Burnett*, Esq. attended by the Gentlemen of the Chamber, and the different Corporations, in their scarlet and other gowns. On his Majesty's Coach stopping, the Recorder, *Charles Fanshawe*, Esq. addressed him in the name of the Mayor and Chamber, in a loyal

† This gate, which was much ruined by *Pertis Warbeck* during the siege of *Exeter* and soon after rebuilt in a very strong manner, consisted of a curtain flanked by two bulwarks. The exterior arch was very strong and lofty, over which, rested a Statue of *King Henry 7th*, in a Roman Toga, holding a Globe and Sceptre: the arms of the same King (viz. *France* and *England*, quarterly) appeared above it, the compartment decorated with roses and portcullises, to signify his descent from the house of *Beaufort*, whose cognizance it was; and the latter still is borne as a crest by the Dukes of *Beaufort*. This Statue, and the Arms, are preserved; they are placed in front of a house erected on the scite, and built with part of the materials of the old gate. Near the bottom of the flanking towers, were port-holes for the great port cannons; and look-outs on each story. In the centre of the gateway was a strong semicircular arch, apparently very ancient; (according to the opinion of the learned *Dr. Stuckley*, this arch was of Roman construction;) the interior front was adorned with a Clock and Dial, which were afterwards placed in the front of *St. John's Hospital*. The Gate was occupied as a Public House; known by the sign of *The Salutation*.

loyal and eloquent speech, expressing sincere and zealous attachment to his Majesty's royal Person, and Government, and their grateful thanks for his condescending to visit their City.

The Mayor then presented the Sword of State, which his Majesty was pleased to return, saying, it could not be entrusted into better hands. Their Majesties then proceeded (through multitudes of joyful spectators, assembled from all parts of the surrounding country,) to the Deanry, prepared for their residence during their stay. In St. Peter's Churchyard, a Regiment of Dragoons (quartered at the time in the city) were drawn up, and they saluted their Majesties as they passed by, and then mounted guard at the Deanry.

In the evening there were bonfires, fireworks, and illuminations, with many emblematic transparencies. The next day their Majesties attended divine service at the Cathedral; but the concourse of people being very great, they were prevented at that time inspecting the curiosities of that ancient edifice. After the service, they repaired to the Bishop's palace; where the King held a Levee, at which, the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, &c. were presented. The customary honour of Knighthood was offered to the Mayor, but he declined it. In the afternoon their Majesties, Princesses, &c. went in private to the Cathedral, where they minutely observed every thing worthy notice, and seemed highly gratified in observing the beauty of the building, the organ, Bishop's Throne, painted windows and other ornaments of that sacred pile. A general illumination was displayed again in the evening, throughout the whole city and its environs. His Majesty did not honour the Chamber with a visit at the Guildhall, it being contrary to usual etiquette, and to prevent giving umbrage to the other cities and towns, he had passed through. After a stay of two nights the Royal Family and suite proceeded on their journey to *Lord Borringdon's* house at *Sattram* near *Phymouth*; where they resided near a fortnight; and on return, slept, one night, at the Deanry, and the next morning continued their travel to Weymouth.

A supposition arising that a dissolution of Parliament would speedily take place, *James Buller, Esq. of Downs*, was invited by a great number of electors for this city, to come forward as a Candidate to oppose the sitting Members, which he accepted, and his declaration appeared as early as *November*, in the preceding year; the pernicious practice of *Quilling*, †

E c 2

then

A. D.  
1790.

Contested  
Election be-  
tween John  
Baring,  
James Bul-  
ler, Esqs. &  
Sir C. W.  
Bampfylde.

† *Quilling*, (in some places justly termed *Reasting*) a term almost peculiar to *Exeter*, signifies treating the Electors with victuals and drink; or, more properly, subverting the morals of the lower class, to the ruin of many of them.

CHAP. IV. then commenced, and was continued, with very few intervals until the month of June following, attended with an enormous expence to the Candidates, and more injury than benefit to the Electors. At the close of the poll (which continued four days) *John Baring*, and *James Buller*, Esquires, were returned duly elected.

A. D.  
1790.

The friends of *Sir C. W. Bampfylde*, not satisfied with the return, petitioned Parliament, complaining of an undue return; and a Committee of the House of Commons being appointed to try the merits of the said petition, it was decided in favour of *John Baring*, Esq. who was declared duly elected.

The bad state and inconveniency, of the Criminal Prisons for the County of *Devon*, being justly complained of, an Act of Parliament was passed for building a new one. A healthy spot of ground on an elevated situation, near *Dane's Castle*, being purchased, it was begun this year, and completed in about four years. The principal part consists of brick, made and burnt on the same spot; with moor-stone copings: the Lodge in front, which is of moor-stone, is furnished with baths.

The Chapel is very neat, and the Gaoler's house commodious, and every necessary accommodation for the health, as well as security for the prisoners, is provided. On the roof of the Lodge, which is flat, and covered with lead, a temporary platform and gallows is erected for the execution of Malefactors. \*

1792.

A plan having been adopted by the Legislature, for erecting Barracks in the different parts of this Kingdom, two large fields

§ The custody of the Gaol, was granted by *William the Conqueror*, to *William Porto*, one of his servants, together with the manor of *Bicton*. *Henry 1st* conferred the said manor on one *John*, (surnamed, from his Office, *Janitor*,) who, by the tenure of these lands, was to keep the Common Prison, within the County of *Devon*. *Gafrid de Balster* held this Manor by the same service, in the reign of *Edward 2d*, from which family, through *Sackville*, it descended to *Henry Coplestone*, Esquire, whose grandson sold it to *Sir Thomas Dennis*; and by *Anne*, one of his daughters and coheirresses, who was married to *Sir Henry Rolle*, the said manor and office came into the family of the *Rolles*; and, the same is now enjoyed by the *Hon. John Lord Rolle*; who, upon paying a certain sum, according to the act, was released from having any further connexion with the said gaol; and the government thereof was conferred on the Justices of the County of *Devon*.

\* Before the erection of the New Gaol, the place of execution was about two miles from the City, called *Heavitree Gallows*, (though being in *Sowton* parish) adjoining to which, is a small inclosed spot of land for the interment of those unfortunates who suffered. It was environed by a stone wall, at the expence of *Mrs. Joan Tuckfield*, of this city, widow, who left an estate to the corporation of *Taylors of Exeter*; in trust, for keeping the said wall in repair.

fields were purchased for that purpose, near the New Gaol, in the parish of *St. David*; and the building was soon after begun, and in a few years, completed. It is an elegant quadrangle, situated on an eminence, commanding an extensive, and beautiful view of the surrounding country: at the upper end are apartments for the Officers, and in the two wings are stabling for 202 Horses, over which are Lodging-rooms for the Privates. There is also a Riding School, Hospital, Farrier's Shop, Suttling House, Guard House, Powder Magazine, Granaries, and every other convenience that could be adopted for the ease and comfort of the stationed Troops. At the commencement of this building, a melancholy accident happened to one of the labourers employed in sinking the Well; after getting to the depth of near 30 feet, the sides, not being properly secured, gave way, and he was crushed to death! some time elapsed, before he could be dug out, when a shocking spectacle presented itself to the Spectators.

CHAP. IV.

New Bar-  
racks for  
Horse, be-  
gun to be  
built.

Melancholy  
accident.

About this period, the Emissaries of *France*, (having entirely altered their system of Government,) endeavoured to excite commotions in this kingdom: the well-affected and loyal citizens of Exeter, entered into associations for supporting the Constitution and Government. In order to counteract their pernicious designs, large bounties were given by the Chamber, and subscriptions opened at different places (the Country-house in particular,) for the purpose of enlisting men for his Majesty's Service, in both Army and Navy.

A. D.  
1793.

Not satisfied with assisting merely by their purses, many offered their services in person, and being accepted, a company of Volunteers was immediately raised, † consisting of sixty Gentlemen, under the command of *Capt. Mackenzie*, (an old established Officer.) They were supplied with Arms from the King's Arsenal, but their complete military cloathing was at their own expence.

1794.

The first  
Company of  
Exeter Vo-  
lunteers,  
raised.

The victories gained by the *French* on the Continent, together with the apprehension of troubles from the discontented at home, called for strong exertions, to provide for the interior security of the Nation; Commissions were therefore granted, for raising a number of *Fencible* Regiments, both Horse and Foot. Two gentlemen of this City, viz. *Colonel Robert Hall*, and *Colonel Thomas Stribling*, received Commissions for levying two Regiments. The first of these by vigorous and prudent exertions, soon completed his quota of men, and they

Devon and  
Cornish  
Fencible  
Regiment  
raised in  
Exeter.

† The Gentleman who suggested in the Guildhall, the idea of raising a Company of Volunteers, was, *Mr. Robert Hemer*, Attorney at Law, of Exeter, for which service, the Chamber conferred upon him the Freedom of the City.

**CHAP. IV.** they were Regimented under the name of the *Devon and Cornish Fencibles*. Just after they were embodied, they were ordered to *Ireland*, where they continued during the remainder of the War; and by strict discipline, and good behaviour, they not only preserved the tranquility of the Western parts of that Kingdom, but gained the esteem of the inhabitants in every station they were quartered at.

By the tenour of their engagements, the several Fencible Regiments were to serve during the War, but in the British Islands only.

*Colonel Stribling*, through the ill conduct (we use no harsher term,) of those employed by him; in recruiting, (after expending a large sum of money) failed in his endeavours to complete a Regiment by the time agreed upon, and those enlisted by him, were draughted into, and incorporated with other corps.

A. D.  
1796.  
2d Company of Exeter Volunteers, raised.

About this period, a second Company of Exeter Volunteers, under the command of *Alderman Benjamin Honeycomb Walker*, was completed, and added to the first.

A Troop of Volunteer Horse, raised.

A Troop of Volunteer Horse, consisting of Gentlemen and Yeomen, of this City and neighbourhood, under command of *Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart.* was also completed; the Troopers furnishing their own Horses, Helmets, and Uniforms, but were provided by Government with arms. Soon after, a second Troop was raised, commanded by *James Lardner, Esq.*

Riot, owing to the dearth of Corn.

The price of Provisions, especially Wheat, advancing greatly, created much murmuring, and dissatisfaction among the common people, who judging the evil to have arisen from nefarious practices of the opulent Millers (whom they suspected of engrossing great quantities of grain) collected in a mob, and proceeded to *Brick Marsh-Mills*, near *Chudleigh*; which they partly demolished, plundered what grain they could find, and furiously insulted, and ill treated the proprietor, *Mr. Balle*. For this offence, one *Mr. Campion*, a blacksmith, of *Dreweighton*, was apprehended as a ringleader, committed to gaol, and on trial, being convicted, was sentenced to be executed near the spot where the crime was committed.

Mr. Campion executed as a Ringleader.

In order to strike terror, and prevent future commotions, the execution was conducted in a manner, hitherto unknown in this city, being entirely Military, and entrusted to the care of *Major Shadwell*, of the 26th Regiment of Light Dragoons.

The unfortunate man (much pitied) was conducted, from the new gaol to the place of execution, in a mourning coach, guarded by the Light Dragoons, the troops of Volunteer Cavalry

Cavalry of *Sir Stafford Northcote*, and *Sir John de la Pole*; the two Companies of *Exeter*, and several others of the neighbouring Volunteers; and, in order to prevent a rescue, a battalion of Militia, with two field pieces were ordered to march to the neighbourhood. The execution, which was solemn and peaceable, struck great awe, in the minds of the spectators, while the unhappy victim to the laws, was much lamented, as he ever bore a good character. He declared, he was compelled to leave his work and join the rioters.

The Parliament being dissolved, writs were issued for electing a new one, and *James Buller*, Esq. declining to offer himself as a candidate, *John Baring*, Esq. and *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, Bart. were returned duly elected,

A great disturbance happened, occasioned by a new raised regiment of foot, which were levied at *Londonderry* in *Ireland*, by the name of the *Londonderry Fencibles*, and from thence removed to this city. It being the intention of government to draught them into other regiments, the men refused compliance, and manifested symptoms of mutiny; they declared that according to their engagements, they were to serve only in their own regiment, and under their own officers. Upon this, the military forces then lying here, were called in to enforce the orders of government; and the *Londonderry men* being drawn up in *St. Peter's Churchyard*, and refusing to obey new officers, were attacked, and dispersed by the 25th regiment of Light Dragoons, assisted by a large party of the first Fencible Cavalry. They fled in every direction, and were pursued by the horse under command of *Major Shadwell*, who executed his orders with the most brutal severity, dreadfully wounding many of the poor fellows, and driving them to the Castle, where they were disarmed, and forced into compliance. During the time this scene lasted, the whole city was in a state of confusion, and exhibited a melancholy idea of a military government; the Light Dragoons behaved with the greatest insolence, not only insulting the peaceable citizens, but riding over many who were incapable of getting out of their way.

A third company of Volunteers, consisting of gentlemen of the first distinction in this city, (who provided themselves with arms, military accoutrements, and cloathing,) formed themselves into a corps, for the interior defence, and securing the property of the citizens, in case of any intestine troubles. They were commanded by *Major Hamilton*, an old, and experienced officer, who had long resided in Exeter, and meeting with the approbation of his Majesty, commissions were granted to the officers, and the gentlemen regularly attended

CHAP. IV.

A. D.  
1796.John Baring  
Esq and Sir  
Charles W.  
Bampfylde,  
returned  
duly elected  
M. P.Disturb-  
ance, occa-  
sioned by  
forcing into  
service, the  
*Londonderry Fencibles*.

1797.

3d Comp-  
ny of Exeter  
Volunteers  
formed.

CHAP. IV. attended their discipline during the continuance of the war.

A. D.  
1798.

The French  
threaten an  
Invasion.

The *French* Nation, exulting in their great successes, set no bounds to their ambitious views, and (exasperated against *Great Britain*, who almost singly withstood her power, and prevented her favourite scheme of absolute dominion) breathed revenge, and menaced the *English*, with the threats of a powerful invasion.

General spirit of the  
Citizens, in  
coming forward for the  
defence of  
their country.

The *British* Ministry made every preparation of defence : Signal Houses were erected to give early intelligence of the enemy's approach ; and the most vulnerable places on the coast were fortified, and guarded. They also had recourse to the constitutional mode of our ancestors, the *Saxons*, viz. arming the effectual force of the country, and calling forth the whole mass of citizens for defence. Circular letters were sent to all parts of the country. On receipt of those to *this City*, a general meeting was held at the Guildhall, where the true spirit of the *British* Nation appeared in the most conspicuous manner. The opulent not only subscribed large sums of money, but offered *personal assistance*, and the heroic flame caught hold of all ranks of men. Nearly every one, capable of rendering any service in this city, enrolled their names, in the different classes proposed and adopted, in which they judged they should be of most effectual use to their Country.

Troop of  
Exeter  
Horse raised.  
Col. Gran-  
ger's Regt.

A Troop, who furnished their own uniforms and horses, was formed under the command of *John Short*, Esq. † likewise a Regiment of Foot, by the name of the *Exeter Loyal Association*, who served without pay, or emolument from government ; they found their uniforms, (at a great expence) but were supplied with arms from his Majesty's *Arsenals*. *Edmund Granger*, Esq. a respectable merchant of the City commanded them, (as Lieut. Colonel.) Beside these, there were two companies who clothed themselves, under command of *Alderman Reuben Philips*, and *Captain Laurence Williams* ; and three companies under Captains *Blackall*, *Collins*, and *Tremlett* ; also a company of Light Infantry, who termed themselves the *Exeter Fusileers*, under command of *Captain Trewman* : § they had an allowance from government towards their cloathing.

and six o-  
ther Com-  
panies rais-  
ed.

Exeter Re-  
giment of  
Volunteers.

The last six Companies were afterwards united to the first and second of *Exeter Volunteers*, the whole forming a Regiment

† This gentleman, soon afterward's dying, (universally lamented, for his benevolence, and the many amiable qualifications he possessed) was succeeded in command by *Philip Cornish*, Esq.

§ Being promoted to a command in the *Regulars*, the command of the Company devolved to *Samuel Luscombe*, Esq.

m<sup>ent</sup> complete, of eight companies, under the command of **CHAP. IV.**  
*Lieut. Colonel John T. Wright*, (Collector of his Majesty's Customs, for the Port of *Exeter*, and brother in law to *Sir S. H. Northcote*, Bart.) an old and experienced Officer. All these corps continued their services during the remainder of the war, and were of great utility in preserving the peace of the country, and intimidating our enemies from their projected invasion.

The advance in the price of Provisions still increasing, (occasioned by a partial failure in the harvest, and the great demands for supplying our fleets, and armies) created much discontent among the middling and lower class of people, particularly at the Corn Market, which was but scantily supplied. The Mayor, (*Jonathan Worthy*, Esq.) constantly attended the Markets, exerted himself for their relief, and preserved the public peace, for which he justly merited their thanks.

The situation chosen, on the removal of the *Great Conduit*, in the *High-street*, proving very incommodious to passengers, by reason of the great resort of people to draw water, a complaint was laid by the neighbouring inhabitants, and the Chamber once more caused it to be removed. It was placed at the bottom of *Cook-row*, *Southgate-street*, where formerly stood the *old Shambles*, over which was the Wool and Yarn Market, just before taken down, in order to widen the street, which was then very narrow, \* and (from the great, and almost continual passing of waggons, Carts, &c.) extremely dangerous to passengers.

On the 28th of July, a dreadful fire, which consumed thirteen houses, inhabited chiefly by poor *Weavers*, happened near the *Black boy Turnpike*, in the parish of *St. Sidwells*; occasioned by a *Brick-kiln* being erected too near a large stack of furze, which taking fire, communicated itself to the adjoining houses. By this accident, a number of poor families were reduced to great distress.

The great consumption of provisions, occasioned by the vast supplies for victualling our Navy, and Army, now caused the war to be felt by all ranks of people; and though, by our insular situation, and the vigilance of our naval commanders, we were preserved from the ravages of a foreign enemy, every necessary article of life advanced to such an enormous price, that the resemblance nearly appeared of an

F f

actual

\* The narrowness of the Street at this place, occasioned frequent accidents; a few years since, a countrywoman was crushed to death! being unable to extricate herself from a waggon which pressed her against one of the houses.



**CHAP. IV.** actual famine! Wheat was upwards of a Guinea, and Barley 14s. per bushel: Beef, Mutton, and Pork, 10d. and Butter 1s. 8d. per pound: Potatoes (though of the very worst kind) 2s. per peck, whilst trade was almost stagnated. This occasioned great murmurings, and clamours, especially among the middling, and lower classes of society, who had hitherto borne their sufferings with an unexampled patience. They loudly exclaimed, without exaggeration, on the distresses of themselves and families, and flocked to the markets in such numbers, that the Mayor *Richard Jenkins, Esq.* was obliged to order out the constables to protect the country people, as the populace, driven almost to despair, crowded on them. With the greatest anxiety, the people endeavoured to purchase their commodities, even at the most enormous prices, the necessary supplies being very scanty. How these evils originated, it is not in the author's power to say; but, most certainly, many cruel, avaricious persons reaped great advantage from the melancholy distress; their hoarding and monopolizing, increased the grievance, as they kept from the markets, the usual supplies.

The Poor  
begin to be  
riotous,

and assem-  
ble on  
Southern-  
hay.

The Magis-  
trates inter-  
fere, and  
numbers of  
additional  
Constables  
are sworn.

The Poor  
relieved by  
subscrip-  
tions, &c.  
Salt Her-  
rings im-  
ported.

Bread sold  
at the Parish  
Churches.

The poor, no longer able to provide proper sustenance for their families, assembled together in many different places, particularly on *Southernhay*, from whence they proceeded in divisions, to the principal Landholders and Farmers, of the surrounding country, desiring some, and compelling others, to sign a contract (which they produced) for selling their wheat, and other necessities, at reduced prices.

Though the mob (much to their credit,) proceeded not to acts of violence, yet danger was feared, if such tumultuous meetings were suffered to continue, the greatest exertions therefore of the Magistrates was required to put a stop to them. Most of the householders in the city were sworn as additional constables, and the mob being prevented from holding any more meetings, by the vigilance of the Mayor, quietness in some degree, was restored.

The sufferings of the poor needing immediate relief, a meeting of the principal citizens was held at the *Guildhall*, where a subscription was opened, and large sums were subscribed. It was greatly assisted by government bounties, who ordered quantities of *Salted Herrings* and *other Fish*, to be sent to the different ports, which were retailed at moderate prices; bounties were also given for the importation of *Wheat, Rice*, and other kinds of provisions, from *Foreign Ports*. Large quantities of an inferior kind of bread, (a mixture of wheat and barley, with other grain) was ordered to be baked in this city, and sold under the direction of the overseers, at the different parish

parish churches, at a much lower price than the bakers sold at; and, in order to lessen the consumption as much as possible, an Act of Parliament was past, to prevent *Bakers* and others, from selling (under a severe penalty) any kind of bread, within 24 hours after the said was baked: it was likewise recommended to all families, to retrench as much as possible, the quantities of bread made use of in their houses; in short, every prudent measure was adopted to alleviate the distress of the country, and prevent, if possible, the horrors of an expected famine, until it should please the Almighty disposer of all events to remove this dreadful scourge by an abundant harvest! Government also exerted itself to remedy this calamity; one expedient was, by giving a bounty to such person or persons, who should supply the markets with a certain quantity of fish; this measure was happily attended with success, greater quantities of that useful aliment was brought to the markets of this city, than was ever before remembered, to the great relief of the citizens; and one *Mr. Thomas Bale*, Fishmonger, received upwards of 160*l.* as his share of the bounty.

CHAP. IV.

Act of Parliament, to prevent the sale of new bread.

Bounties granted for bringing fish to the markets.

The rumour of a *French Invasion* was now more prevalent than ever, and the British Government, made every necessary preparation for their reception. Large bodies of Troops were stationed on the sea coasts, and many corps of Volunteers were embodied for actual service. A large train of Artillery, among which was four long 24-pounders, with the necessary ammunition and stores, was brought from *Plymouth* to this city: the Cannon were for some time lodged in the Castle, and the ammunition, in a place procured for that purpose at *Polsloe*: a camp of horse and foot was formed on the commons near *Woodbury*, to which the Park of Artillery was moved, and stationed in the old camp, commonly termed *Woodbury Castle*, wherethey remained until the breaking up of the camp, when they were brought back to *Exeter Castle*.

Fresh rumours of an invasion.

Exeter Volunteers embodied.

Large train of Artillery brought to Exeter.

Camp formed near Woodbury.

A great nuisance which had long been complained of, viz. the filthiness of the streets of this city, was, this year, removed by the Chamber, who by an act of Common Council, made a law which forbid, under severe penalties, any person from throwing, or laying, ashes, human ordure, or any kind of filth or dung, into the streets, or kennels; and compelling every householder to sweep the pavement before their houses three times in every week. Proper scavengers were provided, who with carts, attended daily to convey away any dirt. This regulation was strongly enforced by the present Mayor, *Thomas Flood*, Esq. who acted with the greatest impartiality, making no distinction between persons, against whom the Mayor.

Bye law made by the Chamber, for keeping the streets clean

A. D. 1801.

which is strongly enforced by whom the Mayor.

**CHAP. IV.** whom complaints were lodged, fining them indiscriminately; and by this means, the streets (which before, for their filthiness, were become proverbial) are kept clean and sweet, to the great comfort, and health of the citizens; and a great reproach is removed from the City.

The waste water from the Conduit conveyed to the Butcher-row.

The waste water from the conduit was, by means of pipes, conveyed into the *Butcher-row*, where its current is of great utility in clearing the kennels of the blood, and filth, which before lodged in them, and was very noisome to passengers.

In return for this very necessary improvement, the inhabitants of the *Butcher-row* gratefully returned the Mayor thanks in an advertisement in the public papers.

Alteration in the standard of bread.

This gentleman, likewise, on his first coming into office, altered the method of setting the assize of bread, after the custom of the city of London. Before this, the weight of the loaves altered according to the price of wheat in the market, but they are now, always to be of one standard weight, and the variation is in their price, the standard of which is set in the Mayor's court every Saturday from the returns made, by the clerks of the market, of the prices of wheat the preceding market day. He also strictly enforced the laws against Carters and others, for leaving their Carriages in the streets, riding on the shafts, &c. fining all offenders impartially, by which, frequent accidents were prevented. The fines, for these, and other misdemeanors, for the first quarter of his Mayoralty, amounted to a sufficiency to purchase 700 half-quartern loaves, which he ordered to be given to the poor at Christmas. †

Regulation in the measure of Coals.

This Mayor likewise paid great attention to the justness of weights and measures, and rectified all abuses in them, particularly in one nefarious practice, that had for a long time prevailed unnoticed, viz. the shameful custom of paring round the edges of their Wooden Measures, (such as Pecks, Half-pecks, &c.) by which, the quantity of proper measure was much lessened. To prevent such iniquitous practices for the future, he issued orders, that no measures of that kind should be used, unless they were encircled round the brim with Iron. He also regulated the measuring of that necessary article of life, Coals, and two sworn Coal Meters were appointed to examine and measure all Coals sent from the Wharf.

On the conclusion of this Gentleman's Mayoralty, he was presented with an elegant piece of plate, of the value of 50 guineas, on which was engraven the following inscription:  
"Exeter,

† The said fines for the remaining part of his Mayoralty, were given towards the support of the Devon, and Exeter Hospital.

“ *Exeter*, 9th October, 1802.

CHAP. IV.

“ At a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the city of *Exeter*, together with the Nobility and Gentry, of its vicinity.—This piece of Plate, was presented to *Thomas Floud*, Esq. the late Mayor, as a testimony of the sense they entertained of his Public services in the execution of his office.”

On the 14th October, Preliminary Articles of Peace, were signed by the Ministers of the contending Nations; and on the news reaching this city, it spread a universal joy, evinced by all ranks of people; the Cathedral and other bells, were immediately rung; and, the next day, there were general illuminations, and other demonstrations of gladness: the preparations for carrying on the war were stopt, and the Park of Artillery, &c. sent back to *Plymouth*.

Preliminary  
Articles of  
Peace  
signed.

The Definitive Treaty was signed at *Amiens*, on the 27th of March, 1802. On this occasion, another general illumination took place, but far superior to the first, in which many fine emblematical transparent paintings were exhibited, and fire-works, and bonfires were to be seen in every street. In the evening the principal citizens, by invitation of the Mayor, met at the *Guildhall*, where they enjoyed themselves in the greatest festivity; every one expressed the most lively joy at the happy return of peace, and being relieved from so long, bloody, and expensive a war; during which they had struggled with the greatest calamities, not only by an almost total stagnation of their trade, heavy and oppressive taxes, but by a deprivation of the comforts, and common necessities of life, from the exorbitant prices demanded for them.

A. D  
1802.

Definitive  
Treaty of  
Peace signed; great  
rejoicings  
in *Exeter*  
on the occasion.

On the 19th and 20th of April, the *East Devon Regiment of Militia* (after being in Service for ten years, and upwards) was disbanded in this city, and sent to their respective homes: and, on Sunday April 25th his Majesty's Letter of Thanks, and orders for their dismissal, was read to *Colonel Wright's Regiment of Exeter Volunteers*.

Militia, and  
*Exeter* Vol-  
unteers dis-  
banded.

On Saturday, May 1st, *Colonel Granger's Regiment of Volunteers*, was disembodied, and the arms delivered up; the *Colonel*, in return for their good behaviour, entertained the whole body with a splendid dinner at the *Swan Tavern*; the corps unanimously voted a Gold Snuff box, of 15 Guineas value, to present to him, as a token of their esteem, and gratitude, for his kind, and polite behaviour. ‡

Col. Gran-  
ger's regi-  
ment dis-  
embodied.

On

‡ Similar presents, were likewise presented to *Sir Stafford Northcote*, and *Colonel Wright*, by their respective corps.

## CHAP. IV.

Peace proclaimed.

On Wednesday May 5th, His Majesty's Proclamation for a General Peace was delivered in *Exeter*, and joy appeared in the countenance of every spectator. The procession consisted of the different Incorporated Trades in their Livery Gowns, preceded by their Beadles and Banners: the Band of Music belonging to the 6th regiment of Dragoons, and a party of the men, unarmed, flanking the procession: a deputy Herald at Arms mounted on a stately Horse, and cloathed in a Herald's Tabard, richly embroidered with his Majesty's Armorial Bearings; the Children of *St. John's Hospital*: the corps of Constables belonging to this City and County, with their Staffs: the City Officers, Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council Men, and Bailiffs, in their scarlet and other robes. After the Herald had read his Majesty's Proclamation in the front of the *Guildhall*, the whole proceeded to *St. John's Hospital*, where, before the Chapel, it was again read; from thence they moved on to *St. John's Bow*, the corner of *Bear-lane* in *Southgate-street*, and to the *West front* of the *Cathedral*, at each of which places it was again read; the procession then returned, by way of *St. Martin's-lane*, back to the *Guildhall*.

During the whole time, the Cathedral and parochial bells rang, and the immense concourse of people gathered together on the occasion, testified their sincere joy; loud huzzas resounded through the streets, and the most perfect propriety of behaviour was observed.

The weather having been remarkably dry for near two months, the Mayor, to prevent accidents by fires, very prudently, (by hand bills) requested the citizens not to illuminate their houses on this occasion.

Thanksgiving day.

June 1st, was observed with the greatest decorum, it being the day appointed by his Majesty's Proclamation, for a general Thanksgiving. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of the Cathedral and Parochial bells; at 10 o'clock the Mayor, Aldermen, &c. preceded by the different Incorporated Trades, with their usual Insignia, went in procession to the Cathedral; the 6th regiment of Dragoons, with their Military Band, marched to the same, from the barracks: part of *Sir Stafford Northcote's Corps*, and the *Exeter Troop of Volunteer Horse* (who were not disbanded) also attended Divine Service. After prayers, the inner choir not being capacious enough to contain the numerous congregation, an excellent Sermon was preached in the outer choir, by the *Rev. Canon Massey*. The Parish Churches, and Dissenting Meeting-houses were crowded; every shop was closely shut (excepting a few Quakers) and the whole forenoon had the appearance of the strictest Sabbath.

Mr.

*Mr. Harold of St. Sidwells*, Coach Maker, with his numerous body of Journeymen, and dependants, after attending Divine Service in the parish church, walked in procession through the *Fore-street*, preceded by a small Phaeton, decorated with blue ribands and flowers, in which sat a little boy. It was carried on Men's shoulders, and after their parade they proceeded to their large working Loft, which was elegantly decorated with green boughs, Lamps, and Emblematical inscriptions; where the whole, consisting of upwards of Seventy persons, sat down to an elegant dinner, of the true good old *English* roast Beef, and plumb puddings, &c. and spent the remainder of the day in the greatest conviviality, testifying their Loyalty by many Constitutional Songs and Toasts.

Many other Companies dined together on this occasion, and mirth and good humour pervaded amongst all ranks of Society.

On the Friday following, being the birthday of our Sovereign, a grand collection of Fireworks was displayed on *Southernay Green*, by *Mr. Paddon* of this City, the expences of which were defrayed, by a voluntary contribution of the Citizens.

The Parliament being dissolved, writs were issued, for electing a new one: *John Baring*, Esq. of *Mount Radford*, who had worthily represented this City, in five succeeding Parliaments, having previously declared (by reason of his advanced age) his resolution of declining that important trust: the Candidates were *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, Bart. *James Buller*, Esq. of *Downs*, and *Edmund Granger*, Esq. of this City: the Poll which commenced July 2d, continued near four days, and at its final close, the numbers were for *James Buller*, Esq. 786, *Sir C. W. Bampfylde*, 637, and *Edmund Granger*, Esq. 444, upon which, the two former were returned duly elected.

The restless and insatiable ambition of the *Corsican* usurper *Bonaparte*, who under the title of first Consul, assumed the government of the *French* nation, unavoidably plunged this country, into a new war. This haughty tyrant, this modern *Attila*, after grasping into his hands, the sole government of the major part of *Italy*, the *Austrian Netherlands*, and great part of *Germany*: depriving the *King of Sardinia* of all his hereditary continental possessions; subjugating the timid governments of *Spain*, *Naples*, and the States of *Holland*, to his imperious will; and in time of profound peace, contrary to the most solemn treaties, ravaging and overturning the ancient government of *Switzerland*. The Usurper, jealous of the growing

*Sir C. W. Bampfylde*, and *James Buller*, Esq. elected Members of Parliament.

A. D. 1803.  
War again with France.

CHAP. IV. growing prosperity of the *British Empire*, the only *European* power that opposed his attempts to universal dominion, endeavoured by the most arbitrary measures, to annihilate her commerce, and by peremptory mandates, ordered his servile dependant states to shut their ports against the importation of all British commodities.

This, and other flagrant breaches of the late treaties, occasioned mild remonstrances on the part of the *British* government: these remonstrances being answered, *Bonaparte* in the most haughty terms, accompanied with threats and demands, too extravagant, both for the honour and interest of the *British* nation, to be complied with, and conciliatory measures being of no effect, orders were issued for making reprisals on the subjects of the *French Republic*, and their allies, which was executed with such vigour, that a great number of ships were captured, and brought into the *British* ports.

An Invasion threatened.

*Bonaparte*, exasperated to the greatest degree, breathed the most sanguinary revenge, threatening the entire subjugation of the *British Empire*, and totally to annihilate her government; for which purposes, immense preparations for an invasion were made, great numbers of vessels were constructed in all the ports of *France*, *Holland*, and *Flanders*, and large armies, composed of deserters and banditti, the refuse of most *European* nations were marched to the sea coasts.

Great preparations of defence made.

To counteract the tyrant's intentions, the *British* ministry exerted themselves in the most vigilant manner. The lately dismantled ships, were again commissioned, manned and sent to sea; a new Militia raised and embodied; and squadrons of ships dispatched to cruise off the *French coasts*, and watch their motions. The preparations of the enemy still increasing, the utmost efforts appeared necessary to give them a warm reception, should they escape the vigilance of the *British* navy, and have the temerity to put their proposed threats into execution: an additional Militia, equal in number to the former; and an army of Reserve of 40,000 effective men, were raised by ballot.

Camp on Woodbury hill.

The East Devon Regiment of Militia, marched to *Plymouth*; a camp was formed on the heights near *Woodbury*, consisting of the two regiments of *Somerset* Militia, and a large park of Artillery, which had been previously sent from *Plymouth*; batteries of large cannons were constructed on the coast; and beacons erected on the principal heights, to give a speedy intelligence of an approaching enemy.

The vaunting menaces of the *Corsican* usurper, instead of damping, roused the ancient ardour and martial spirit of the *British* nation: large bodies of Volunteers were formed throughout

throughout the whole Empire: and in this city, and its neighbourhood, the three troops of horse, lately commanded by *Sir Stafford Northcote*, were considerably augmented: and a Regiment of foot Volunteers, consisting of 600 men, was soon completed and armed, under the command of *John Thomas Wright*, Esq. Colonel; *James N. Duntze*, Esq. Lieutenant-Colonel; *Hubert Cornish*, Esq. Major; *B. H. Walker*, *Samuel Lascomb*, *Matthew Wood*, *John Gullett*, *John Wilcocks*, *Francis Turner*, *Laurence Williams*, *John Vicary*, and *Francis South*, Esqrs. Captains.—To these were soon after added, two companies of Artillery, commanded by *Thomas Floud*, Esq. Major; *Samuel Kingdon*, and *James Williams*, Esqrs. Captains: and a company of Artificers, under the command of *Thomas Russell*, Esq.

All these troops volunteered to serve in any part of the western district, which consists of the counties of *Devon*, *Somerset*, and *Cornwall*. Lieut.-General *Simcoe*, an officer of distinguished merit, (a native of this City) was appointed to the chief command, in which he was assisted by Major-General *Grosvenor*. In addition to those great preparations, a formidable train of battering cannon consisting of six long 24 pounders, and upwards of fifty carronades, carrying the same weight of metal, with a large quantity of ammunition, military stores, intrenching tools, biscuits, &c. were brought and deposited in this City, to be ready in case of emergency. The six long 24 pounders, with part of the carronades, were mounted in the castle yard; the remainder of the cannon, with the ammunition &c. were lodged in a field near *St. Ann's* chapel, proper magazines, guard-house, &c. having been purposely erected for their reception; and the remainder of the stores were deposited in several places hired for the purpose; and for the better accommodation of the troops, large additional barracks were erected, in a field contiguous to the former barracks. In short, through the vigilance and great exertions of the commander in chief, the county of *Devon* was put in a state of perfect security, and its inhabitants had defiance to the Quixotic menaces of a haughty and implacable tyrant.

On the 14th of November, the Exeter regiment of volunteers were embodied for actual service, and took their part of duty with the troops here quartered, in mounting guards at the castle, magazines, &c. And six brass field pieces (6 pounders) were brought to this City, for the use of the volunteer artillery. And, that no human effort should be neglected, several hundred of the principle citizens, were sworn as additional constables, to assist the civil power,

G g

and



CHAP. IV. and prevent the unprincipled from taking any advantage of the necessity of the times, and plundering their neighbours.

In the midst of those great exertions, our religious and gracious sovereign, well judging, that all human endeavours were vain, without the blessing and assistance of the almighty disposer of all events, by whose power the greatest empires rise and fall; issued a proclamation for a general fast, humbly to implore the divine protection, to avert his just indignation, and to preserve the *British* empire from becoming a prey to a lawless usurper, who had plundered great part of *Europe*, and drenched her plains with the blood of its unfortunate inhabitants. This fast was kept with all due solemnity, by persons of all ranks and persuasions in this City.

A. D.  
1804.

The chief magistrate, on his entering into his office, proposed to the citizens the following necessary improvements in their police, viz. that an additional number of public lamps to those already maintained by the lamp-rates, should be erected and maintained at the expence of the several parishes; that the names of each street and lane should be painted at their several corners, and the houses numbered, after the manner of *London* and other improved cities; and that a regular nightly watch be established; every householder in their several wards to watch each in their turn. These regulations, are as yet but partially attended to; most of the parishes have made great additions to their lamps, to the great benefit and comfort of occasional passengers in long and dark nights; and some have numbered their houses and inscribed their streets, and it is to be hoped, that this necessary accommodation to enquiring strangers will become general, and the citizens experience its great utility.—The nightly watch was attempted, but not meeting with general approbation, was soon discontinued.

The latter end of this year was distinguished by the foundation of spacious Barracks, with stables, store-houses, and every other necessary accommodation, for a large military depot of artillery and stores. These Barracks, situate about one mile south of the city, are erecting in a field heretofore called *Spicer's Park*, purchased by government for this purpose: great part of the building is nearly compleated.

MAYORS

**MAYORS and BAILIFFS to the 45th year of the reign  
of GEORGE III.**

1761.	John Floud.	William Lane.
<i>Samuel Dir, Ob.</i>	Thomas Scott.	John Bickley.
<i>Francis Brayne.</i>	John Glanvill.	1772.
John Bussell.	Robert Sparke.	<i>Gregory Jackson.</i>
Nath. E. Cosseratt.	1767.	John E. Pierce.
Richard Coffin.	<i>Wm. Collings, Ob.</i>	Jonas Dennis.
Joseph Couch.	<i>James Crossing.</i>	Daniel Floud.
1768.	Thomas Coffin.	Henry Edwards.
<i>James Crossing.</i>	Samuel Moore.	1773.
Humphry Hill.	Samuel Walkey.	<i>Henry Kitson.</i>
Nicholas Medland.	David Gattey.	Charles Edwards.
John Yard.	1768.	John Holman.
Henry Kitson.	<i>Philip Dacie.</i>	Jonathan Burnett.
1763.	Gregory Jackson.	Joseph Steer.
<i>Edward Walker.</i>	John Rowe.	1774.
William Collings.	Thomas Legge.	<i>John Dennis.</i>
Wm. Spicer Dix.	David Sweetland.	John Coddington.
Thomas Elliott.	1769.	William Rigg.
Richard Glanvill.	<i>Thomas Dodge.</i>	James Bath.
1764.	Henry Kitson.	Daniel Campion.
<i>Jacob Rowe.</i>	Robert Stribling.	1775.
Philip Dacie.	Joseph Ley.	<i>John Eyles Pierce.</i>
John Battersby.	Laurence Williams.	James Grant.
Richard Hayne.	1770.	George Westlake.
John Heard.	<i>John Floud.</i>	Charles Upham.
1765.	Thomas Wilcocks.	John Foot.
<i>John Bussell.</i>	Reuben Phillips.	1776.
Thomas Dodge.	William Hicks.	<i>Charles Edwards.</i>
John Lake.	Joseph Bass.	Charles Furlong.
John Bennett.	1771.	John Bussell.
David Gattey.	<i>Thomas Coffin.</i>	John Pearce.
1766.	John Dennis.	William Gattey.
<i>Humphry Hill.</i>	George Strong.	1777

CHAP. IV.

1777.	J. Crossing, Jun. Richard Thorn. Chas. Saunderson.	1790.
<i>Thomas Dodge.</i> Samuel Moore. Benj. H. Walker. Richard Jenkins. Richard Daw.	1784. <i>Benj. H. Walker.</i> Richard Jenkins. John Pinhey. Nicholas How. Robert Pike.	<i>Edward Ragueneau.</i> Rd. Chamberlain. J. Burnett, Jun. William G. Chave. Richard Gould.
1778.	1785. <i>George Westlake.</i> Jonathan Burnett. John Stephens. Edmund Stooke. William Hicks.	1791. <i>Reuben Phillips.</i> Rd. Hart, Jun. Joseph Norrington. Edward Pym. Richard Finch.
<i>James Grant.</i> Nicholas Brooke. John Dacie. Thomas Jones. Joseph Gibbons.	1786. <i>Nath. E. Cosseratt.</i> William Bate. Ed. Bartlett, Jun. George Hayman. James Portbury.	1792. <i>John Pinhey.</i> John Balle. Richard Dewdney. Moses A. Mitchell. Thomas Saunders.
1779.	1787. <i>Richard Jenkins.</i> Ed. Ragueneau. Charles Collyns. William Chave. Moses Hern.	1793. <i>Rd. Chamberlain.</i> Charles Upham. Robert Tothill. Jonathan Worthy. John Gibbons.
<i>Charles Furlong.</i> John Bussell. John Robbins. George Sloman. Wm. Hutchings.	1788. <i>Jonathan Burnett.</i> Reuben Phillips. George Bodley. Joseph Rowe. Robert Saunders.	1794. <i>Richard Hart.</i> John Brake. John D. Worthy. John Salter. Richard Hornewell.
1780.	1789. <i>William Bate.</i> John Pinhey. Samuel White. Henry Floud, Jun. Samuel Speare.	1795. <i>John Balle.</i> Joseph Gattey. Thomas Hele. James Penny. D. Phillips, Jun.
<i>Samuel Moore.</i> William Ilbert. Edward Bartlett. John Spry. Joshua Sparke.	1796. <i>Charles Upham.</i> Jonathan Worthy. Thomas	
1781.		
<i>Nicholas Brooke.</i> Benj. H. Walker. Richard Coffin. Nathaniel Sanders. David E. Phillips.		
1782.		
<i>John Bussell.</i> George Westlake. John Bartlett. Thomas Browne. Joseph Gattey.		
1783.		
<i>William Ilbert</i> Nath. E. Cosseratt.		

Thomas Turner.	John Ford.	William Matthews.	CHAP. IV.
George Copp.	Samuel Kemp.	1803.	
John Rickcord.	1800.	<i>John Pinhey.</i>	
1797.	<i>Richard Jenkins.</i>	S. Trist, Jun.	
<i>John Brake.</i>	Samuel White.	John W. Bennett.	
Benjamin Walkey.	Richard Strong.	William Beal.	
Robert Maunder.	Richard Edwards.	Thomas Halse.	
Samuel Gilbert.	Thomas Wills.	1804.	
George Walker.	1801.	<i>Joseph Greenway.</i>	
1798.	<i>Thomas Floud.</i>	W. B. Jackson.	
<i>Joseph Gattey.</i>	Joseph Greenway.	S. Langston, Jun.	
Thomas Floud.	John Shiles.	Robert Gollop.	
James Worthy.	Joseph Bass.	Richard Ferris.	
John Gattey.	John Reed.	1805.	
Charles Matthews.	1802.	<i>John T. Wright.</i>	
1799.	<i>Charles Collyns.</i>	Charles Collyns.	
<i>Jonathan Worthy.</i>	J. T. Wright.	H. H. Pinhey.	
Charles Collyns.	Richard Worthy.	John Periam.	
George Maunder.	Thomas Hooper.	William Davey.	

Having thus, according to the best of my poor abilities, compleated the historic account of this ancient and truly loyal City, I hope my fellow citizens will continue stedfast in maintaining its glorious motto of SEMPER FIDELIS, until time shall be no more; and may the ALMIGHTY be graciously pleased to restore the blessings of a lasting peace: when commerce and trade shall again return to comfort the industrious citizen, and the drum and fife be succeeded by the more pleasing sounds of the shuttle and artificers' hammer, which God of his infinite mercy grant.

*End of the fourth Chapter.*



*The following were received too late for regular insertion, have therefore thought proper to add them at the end of this Chapter.*

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Translation of an Extract from a MS. in the Bodleian Library, entitled, "*Chronicon Exoniensis Ecclesie desineas in obitu Johannis de Grandisono, Episc.*"

"A. D. 1080, in the middle of the night of the birth of our Lord, a terrible and unaccustomed noise, with lightening and thunder, suddenly came with a motion of the earth, and caused great ruins of houses.—It struck fear unto the hearts of all, so that all trembled at the judgment of God himself happening to them."

What is very remarkable is, that this circumstance is not recorded by any other historian, therefore it is very probable that this dreadful storm, and concussion of the earth, was confined to *Exeter* and its neighbourhood; registers of this sort being kept in all collegiate churches, monasteries, &c.

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The siege of *Exeter* castle by King Stephen, in the year 1140,\* is thus described by an eye witness; (see *Gesta regis Stephani apud Duchesn*, page 934.)

"The castle of *Exeter* is built on a lofty mount, surrounded with impenetrable walls, strengthened with *Cæsar*ian towers. In this castle *Baldwin de Riparis* placed a garrison, composed of valiant youths, the flower of all *England*, to defend it against the King, to whom he bound them by a solemn oath; and putting under their protection his wife and children. When the King invested the castle, they mounted the walls in shining armour, and treated him and his army with scorn and defiance. Sometimes they sallied out from their secret passages when least expected, and put many of the besiegers to the sword; sometimes

\* See page 30.

“ sometimes they poured down showers of arrows, darts,  
“ and other weapons on the assailants. On the other hand,  
“ the King and his Barons laboured with the greatest ardour  
“ to distress the garrison. Having formed a very strong  
“ and well-armed body of foot, he assaulted the barbican,  
“ and, after a fierce and bloody struggle, carried it. He  
“ next beat down, with his engines, the bridge of com-  
“ munication between the castle and the city; after which  
“ he erected lofty towers of wood, with wonderful art, to  
“ protect his men, and enable them to return the discharges  
“ from the walls. In a word he gave the besieged no rest,  
“ either by day or night. Sometimes he drew up all the  
“ slingers of his army, and threw into the castle an in-  
“ tolerable shower of stones. Sometimes he employed the  
“ most skilful miners, to undermine the foundations of the  
“ walls. He made use of machines of many different kinds,  
“ some of which were very lofty, for inspecting what they  
“ were doing within the castle; and others very low, for  
“ battering and beating down the walls. The besieged  
“ making a bold and masterly defence, baffled all his machi-  
“ nations with most astonishing dexterity.—After this siege  
“ had lasted three months, and King *Stephen* had expended  
“ upon it, in machines, arms, and other things, no less  
“ than 15,000 marks, equal to 150,000*l.* of the present  
“ money, the besieged were compelled to surrender for want  
“ of water.”

The articles of capitulation for the surrender of the City and Castle of *Exeter*, to the parliament army, under the command of *Lord Fairfax*, were executed and signed, at *Poltimore-House*, 10th April, 1646.

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## CHAPTER V.

# ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

### *Religion of the Ancient Britons.*

**T**HE religion of the *Primitive Britons*, was for many ages, CHAP. V.  
pure and uncontaminated, nearly resembling that of Religion of  
the Ancient Patriarchs; (a convincing proof of an early set- the Ancient  
tlement in this Island; soon after their dispersion at Babel.) \* Britons, Pa-  
They believed in one supreme Deity, to whom they offered triarchal.  
sacrifices, and paid divine honours. Their Altars were erect-  
ed in the midst of *Groves of Oak*, † and the Trees they held  
in great veneration, ‡ as they did likewise the *Mistletoe* that  
grew from them, and which they esteemed as a great favour  
from Heaven. This holy plant, when discovered, was cut  
with a knife of gold, on a particular day, (the Moon having  
attained its second quarter) by the *Arch Druid*, clothed in a  
white robe; and was preserved as a precious relic.

This purity of religion, continued until their intercourse  
with the *Phenicians* and *Greeks*, who introduced their idola- Introducti-  
trous worship, polytheism, and the abominable offering of on of Poly-  
human sacrifices: one of these customs was to erect a stu- theism, by  
pendous image of a giant, composed of wattled rods, the in- the Phen-  
side of which, they filled with the captives of both sexes, old icians.  
and young, taken in war, and with such beasts, as they were  
wont to offer in their sacrifices: this image they set fire to, Sam's anti-  
and thus offered up the whole as victims pleasing to their quities,  
infernal deities. p. 106.  
A dreadful  
kind of  
Sacrifice.

Their Priests (the *Druids*) possessed great authority, but  
H h were

\* We find that even so late as *Abraham's* time, that some of the *Canaanites* were not infected with Idolatry, see *Genesis*, chap. xx. v. 3, where *Abimelech*, King of *Gerar*, and his Servants, were worshippers of the true God.

† *Abraham* built an Altar, and planted a Grove in *Beerseba*, see *Genesis*, chap. xxi. v. 33. Hence we see, that Groves have always been considered as the most proper places for retirement; and doubtless, the silence, and natural gloom, which reign in those solitudes, must dispose the mind to serious contemplation.

‡ The custom of wearing branches of Oak on particular occasions, still remains among us, derived from the superstition of our Ancestors; much more ancient, than the preservation of *King Charles 2d.*



**CHAP. V.** were under the government of the *Arch Druid*, § who instructed them in their religious duties: these were never committed to writing, consequently the graduates, who were initiated into the mysteries, were obliged to retain them by the mere strength of memory.

**Great power of the Druids.** The Priests not only administered at the Altar, but presided over the education of youth; enjoyed an immunity from war and taxes; possessed both civil and criminal jurisdiction; and decided all controversies between private persons, and even differing states.

At length their power, and ascendancy over the minds of the people became so great, that the *Romans*, after their conquest, totally abolished their institutes, extirpated the Priests, and issued penal statutes against the exercise of their religion.

**The Idolatry of the Druids succeeded by that of the Romans.** After the extirpation of the *Druids* and their Religion, the conquering *Romans* introduced their own Idolatrous system: innumerable Temples and Altars were erected in the *Roman Provinces*, to their different Deities (of which, many remains have been discovered in this kingdom) and the *Roman Theogony* prevailed till its final dissolution under the Emperor *Constantine*.

**The preaching of the gospel in this country.** At what time the Christian doctrine was first introduced into this island does not appear, but it is very probable, that it was soon after England's being made a province of the *Roman Empire*. The story of *Joseph of Arimethea's* preaching the Gospel here, and the foundation of *Glastonbury Abbey*, is not sufficiently authenticated. *Gildas*, a native of this country, and a faithful Historian, assures us that the gospel was preached in England before the insurrection of *Boadicea*, against the *Romans*, in the time of the Emperor Nero, A. D. 64, *St. Chrysostom* speaks of the event, likewise; as also does *St. Jerome*. From different passages in the writings of these eminent authors, we have sufficient proof of the early plantation of the Gospel, in this Island; it is evident, the doctrine of *Christ* was spread, and Churches erected throughout the whole Province of *South Britain*; and, if the accounts mentioned by *Bede* may be depended upon, of *Lucius* \* a British

A. D.  
64.  
*Gildas*.

*St. Chrysostom*.  
*St. Jerome*.

169.

King  
§ Some eminent authors have supposed that, from the Druidical remains at *Drenewstington*, it was the residence of the Arch Druid of the *Danmonii*, and that thence it received its name, which implied the *Druid's* town on the river Teign.

*Bede*.

\* *Bede* says, that this King, was converted to Christianity, by Priests sent from *Eleutherius*, Bishop of Rome, A. D. 169, and that after he had purged the Heathen Temples, and destroyed the Images of their false Gods, he erected three Archbishoprics, one at *London*, one at *York*, and one at *Caerleon upon Uske*.

*King* erecting three Archbishops' Sees in his Dominions, Christianity must have been the prevailing religion. CHAP. V.

The Christian Religion was nearly annihilated in this Island, in the reign of the Emperor *Dioclesian*, who raised the severest persecution on the followers of our Lord, that they had yet felt! A. D. 290.  
Dreadful persecution of the Christians.

The British Churches were every where demolished, their bibles burnt, and the penalty of death laid on such as concealed any: their Pastors suffered under the most cruel torments, and every means was practised, to root out the very name of their Religion!

History records the names of *St. Alban* (the Protomartyr of this Island,) and *St. Amphibalus*, his Tutor at *Verulam*, (now *St. Albans*, in *Hertfordshire*) *Julius* and *Aaron*, two citizens of *Caer-Usk*, † in *Monmouthshire*, as the principal Martyrs, who suffered in *Britain*; and so many were put to death at *Litchfield*, ‡ that it resembled another *Golgotha*; some authors make them amount to upwards of Ten Thousand!

This was the last, and most violent persecution, the primitive Christians suffered, under the *Roman* Emperors, for *Constantinus Chlorus*, who succeeded *Dioclesian*, greatly favoured them, and permitted them to rebuild their Churches, and enjoy the public exercise of their religion. His son and successor, *Constantine*, (whose Mother, the *Empress Helena*, was a *Briton* by birth, and a Christian,) publicly embraced the doctrine of *Christ*; and from this time, it flourished in *Britain*, and became the national Religion, until the conquest of *England*, by the Heathen *Saxons*. 306.  
Christian Religion firmly established in England.

Though there remains not the slightest record of British Churches in this City, yet, that it enjoyed the blessings of the Gospel of *Christ* with the rest of *Britain*, cannot be doubted.

By the establishment of the *Saxons* in *England*, the professors of the Christian Religion, (the remains of the *Britons*,) were driven to the remote corners of the Island; the Churches were destroyed, and the Pastors cruelly butchered; in short the most horrid devastations extended to every place, where the Invaders possessed power. 477.  
British Churches destroyed by the Saxons.

Gross Idolatry was introduced by them; they offered human sacrifices to their Gods; even their Princes and most eminent men were chosen by lot, for the purpose.

H h 2

Sometimes

† *Mr. Camden*, p. 75, says they were citizens of *Caer-esk*, (*Exeter*) *Camden*, but this must be a mistake.

‡ From this event some authors conceive its name to have been *Leachfield*, that is, a field of dead Carcasses; and for this cause, the City bears for its Arms, an Escutcheon charged with many Martyrs.

**CHAP. V.** Sometimes the handsomest of their captives were selected, and put to excruciating tortures; their bodies were opened while alive, under pretence that by viewing them, they could portend future events, as success in battle, &c.

**Saxon Deities.** Their principal Deities were, the *Sun, Moon, Tutes, Woden, Thor, Friga,* and *Seater*, to whom they dedicated the days of the week.

**A. D. 597.**

**Saxons in England receive the Christian faith.**

The Saxons were sunk in the extreme of Idolatry, until their conversion by *Augustine* the Monk, in the reign of *Ethelbert*, King of *Kent*, A. D. 597, who embraced Christianity from the persuasion of his Queen.

**611.**

**West Saxons converted to Christianity.**

The *West Saxons* did not receive the Christian faith, until the reign of *Kynegills*, A. D. 611, who, by the preaching of *Berinus*, an *Italian*, sent from *Rome*, was convinced of the errors of Idolatry, and was baptized, with many of his nobility. By frequent irruptions and cruelties, of the *Pagan Danes*, desolation was again brought upon the country, and the Christian religion once more nearly exterminated.

Even Christianity softened not the manners of the *English Saxons*; nothing could exceed their ignorance at this period, for as they received the Doctrine through the corrupted channels of *Rome*, credulity and superstition were implanted with it. Bounty to the Church, atoned for every vice, and the blackest crimes were pardoned by penance. while servility to the Monks was observed to a gross degree, and large benefactions were continually made, by the nobility to the Court of *Rome*.

**Great Superstition of the times.**

**Saxon Chronicle.**

*Wilfrid*, Bishop of *Lindisfarne*, sole prelate of *Northumberland*, preached to his ignorant auditors, "That *St. Peter*, to whose custody the keys of heaven were entrusted, would refuse admittance to every one, who should be wanting in respect to his successor." This suited their vulgar conceptions, and increased the influence of the Papal See.

**903.**

The great extent of the Diocesses in that early age, made a regular visitation of the Bishops almost impracticable: King *Edward* the Elder, about 905, visiting the Western parts of his dominions, found the Churches deserted and in ruins, no Pastors, the People wrapt in the deepest ignorance, and nothing but the name of Christian left among them: to remedy this evil, he, by the advice of *Plegmundus* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, erected two more Sees, § one at *St. Petrocs* at *Bodmin* for *Cornwall*; the other at *Taunton* for *Devon*, appointing *Werstanus* the first Bishop.

*Bishops*

§ Prior to this, the See of the *West Saxons*, had been removed to *Winchester*, from *Dorchester* in *Oxfordshire*; and the Diocese divided into two, viz. *Winchester*, and *Sherborne* in *Dorsetshire*.

*Bishops of Devon.*

CHAP. V.

1st. *Werstanus* after his Consecration, fixed his See at *Tawton* near *Barnstable*, but did not enjoy his new dignity long; he died in the following year, was buried in his own Church, and succeeded by,

A. D.

2d. *Putta*, who had also fixed his See at *Tawton*; but, about the year 912, taking a journey to *Crediton*, to visit the King, or, (according to others,) *Uffa* Earl of *Devon*, was slain, supposed by the said *Earl's* followers.

906.

3d. *Eadulphus* \* on the death of *Putta*, was consecrated Bishop of *Devon* at *Crediton*, to which place he removed his See, and built a magnificent Church. He continued Bishop 22 years, and dying, was buried in his own Church.

912.

*Eadulphus*.  
The See removed to  
*Crediton*.

4th. *Ethelgarus* succeeded. In his time King *Athelstan* founded a *Benedictine Monastery* in the City of *Exeter*, which he dedicated to the *Virgin Mary*. He held his See 10 years, and then dying, was buried in his own Church.

934.

*Ethelgarus*.

5th. *Algarus*. He was installed at *Crediton* and held the See about 10 years. He was buried in his own Church, and succeeded by,

944.

*Algarus*.

6th. *Alfwoldus*, who was consecrated by *Dunstan* Archbishop of *Canterbury*. In his time, *Orgar* Earl of *Devon* built the stately Abbey of *Tacistock*; and King *Edgar* restored the *Benedictine Abbey*, founded by *Athelstan* in *Exeter*, recalled the Monks who had been dispersed, and made *Sidemannus* Abbot thereof: *Alfwoldus* governed his Diocese about 16 years. He, also, was interred in his own Church.

954.

*Alfwoldus*.

7th. *Alwulfus*, according to *Dicetas* was consecrated Bishop of *Crediton*, who held his See about 9 years, and then dying was buried in his own Church.

970.

*Alwulfus*.

8th. *Sidemannus*, Abbot of *Exeter*, was elected in the room of the last Bishop. During his government the *Danes* made dreadful havoc in the counties of *Devon*, and *Cornwall*; they burnt, and destroyed by different means, the Country, and spared neither Sex nor Age! among other outrages they burnt the Cathedral Church at *Bodmin*, on which account the See was removed to *St. Germans*. *Sidemannus* after enjoying his Episcopal dignity 12 years, died and was interred in his own Cathedral.

*Sidemannus*.

Cathedral at  
*Bodmin*,  
burnt by  
the *Danes*.

9th. *Alfredus* (named by *Dicetas*, *Alfricus*) Abbot of *Malmesbury*, was installed at *Crediton*. He was esteemed a learned

*Alfredus*.

\* *Mr. Hooker* makes this Bishop, brother to *Alpius*, Duke of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, but this must be an error, for *Uffa* at this time was Earl of *Devon*; the title of Duke was not known then; besides, the name *Alpius* is not Saxon.

**CHAP. V.** learned man, and wrote two books, one intituled, *De rebus canobii sui*, the other *De rerum naturis*. In this Bishop's time King *Ethelred* endowed the Bishopric of *St. Germans* with lands, great liberties, and immunities. The *Danes* again ravaged *Devon* and *Cornwall*, spoiled and burnt the Abbey of *Tavistock*, and besieged *Exeter*, but were defeated at *Pinhoe* with great slaughter. *Alfredus* died Anno 999, and was interred in *Crediton* Church.

Danes defeated at Pinhoe.

A. D. 999.  
Alwulfus.  
Exeter destroyed by the Danes.

10th. *Alwulfus* (according to *Dicetas*) was the next Bishop. In his time, *Sweyn*, King of *Denmark*, took and destroyed the city of *Exeter*; in this general destruction, the remains of *British* antiquity, Churches, and Monasteries, fell a prey to the flames, and the whole City was left one heap of ruin! *Alwulfus* was Bishop of *Crediton*, but he enjoyed but little comfort, being continually in terror of the *Danes*, to whom he was obliged to pay submission. He died Anno 1014, and was interred in his own Church.

1014.  
Alnoldus.

11th. *Alnoldus*, according to *Matthew of Westminster*, succeeded; and was installed at *Crediton*. In the time of this Bishop's government King *Canute* to expiate the crimes of his Father *Sweyn*, repaired the *Benedictine* Abbey of *Exeter*, granted the Monks great privileges; and gave to the Abbot *Athelwold* many holy relics, grants of lands, (particularly the manor of *Stoke-Canon*) besides large immunities. *Alnoldus*, after sitting in the Episcopal Chair 15 years, died, and was interred in his own Church.

1029.  
Levigus.

12th. *Levigus* (or *Lecingus*) Abbot of *Tavistock*, and Nephew to *Brithwald* Bishop of *Cornwall*, was the next successor. He was high in the favour of *Canute*, whom he attended in his pilgrimage to *Rome*. On the death of his Uncle the Bishop of *St. Germans*, he obtained that See, and united it to that of *Crediton*, which has ever since continued one Bishopric. After 15 years, he was removed to the See of *Worcester*, where he died and was buried. Some affirm, that falling under the displeasure of the King *Hardicanute* he was deposed, and returned back to *Tavistock*, and there died.

The Sees of Cornwall & Devon united.

1044.  
Leofricus.

13th. *Leofricus*. He was a native of *Lorrain*, and, on account of his noble descent, wisdom, and learning, greatly in favour with King *Edward the Confessor*, † who made him one of his Privy Council, Lord Chancellor of England, and afterwards promoted him to the vacant See of *Crediton*, where he was installed; he then removed his residence to *Exeter*, a place of more note and security in such troublesome times; and

The Bishops See removed from Crediton to Exeter.

† King *Edward*, by his partiality to Foreigners, (for he promoted them to places of the greatest trust) was greatly instrumental to the *Norman* Conquest.

and at his request the King with his Queen *Editha*, came to this City, and removed the Monks from the *Benedictine* Abbey, to that of *Westminster*, which he had lately built. He also translated the See from *Crediton* to *Exeter*, and put the Bishop in possession thereof; the King taking him by the right hand, and the Queen by the left, conducted him to the *High Altar*, and there placed him in a seat appointed for the purpose. *Leofricus* thus installed, suppressed several Religious Houses within the vicinity of his Church, and appropriated their revenues to its service; and by his great interest with the King, obtained of him large possessions, privileges, and revenues. In his time *William the Conqueror* possessed himself of this kingdom, besieged and took this City.

This Bishop, filled the Episcopal Chair with dignity and honour for 23 years, died in peace, and was interred in the Cemetery of his Church, which place, by the enlargement of the sacred pile since, is under the South Tower. A new monument was erected to his memory, about the year 1568, at the expence of the Dean and Chapter, through the influence of *Mr. John Hooker*, (author of the ancient History of *Exeter*) who composed an elegant Latin Epitaph which is now entirely obliterated; the only one remaining (which has lately been repaired) is, "*Leofricus fyrst Bishope of Ex- ceter lyeth here.*"

14th. *Osbertus*, by birth a Norman, was, in 1074, installed into this Bishopric, which he held for near 30 years, the latter part of which he was almost blind, from age. He died Anno 1104, and was buried in the Cemetery of his Church, near his predecessor. †

15th. *William Warlewast*, a Norman, Chaplain to the Conqueror, and his sons and successors, *William* and *Henry*, was by the latter preferred to this Bishopric, and consecrated by *Anselm*, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1107. He first began to enlarge his Cathedral, which at that time, occupied the site of that part only, now termed *The Lady's Chapel*. He also founded a Monastery for Canons Regular at *Plympton*. In his latter days, he lost his sight, yet so great was his reputation for wisdom, that it did not prevent his being sent Ambassador, to *Pope Paschall*, where he executed his commission with so much prudence, that he effected a reconciliation between the said Pope and his Master, who, before, were at high variance. On his return, he was received with marks of the greatest esteem, notwithstanding which, judging himself unfit

† Adjoining the wall under the South Tower is a very ancient Altar Tomb without any Inscription, (remaining) which is supposed to cover the remains of this Bishop.

**CHAP. V.** fit (from his blindness) to perform the duties of his sacred function, he resigned his Bishopric, and retired to *Plympton*, where, becoming a Canon in the house he had caused to be built, he died, and was buried there. He filled the Episcopal Chair about 20 years.

**A. D.** 1128. **Robert Chichester.** 16th. *Robert Chichester*, Dean of *Salisbury* was consecrated by *Anselm*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1128. He was a descendant of a very respectable Family in the County of *Devon*, and esteemed for his great zeal in Religion, often (according to the ignorance of those times) performing Pilgrimages to *Rome*, and other places, and bringing home reliques; he continued the additional buildings to his Cathedral, begun by his Predecessor, on which he expended great sums; after having enjoyed his dignity about 22 years, he died, and was interred in his own Cathedral, on the South side of the *High Altar*.

1150. **Robert Warlewast.** 17th. *Robert Warlewast*, Nephew to the late Bishop *William*, (Dean of *Salisbury*,) was consecrated by *Theobald*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1150. He continued the building of his Cathedral, and after filling the See about 9 years, died and was buried at *Plympton* near his Uncle.

1149. **Bartholomew Icanus.** 18th. *Bartholomew Icanus* (so named from the place of his birth, he being born in *Exeter*) succeeded: he was the son of a poor citizen, but being noticed in his early age for his apt and ready wit, and great inclination to learning, his parents, with the assistance of friends, put him to school, where he made such proficiency, that he attracted the notice of his superiors, and was by them advanced in the Church; after his elevation to the Episcopal Throne he wrote several Books, on *Predestination*, *Free will*, *Penance*, and other superstitious errors of the times; he was a great opposer of that arch rebel and pretended Saint, *Thomas Becket*, particularly in the Parliament held at *Northampton*, where in his speech he convinced his auditors, of the justice of the King's cause and the fallacies of *Becket's* pretensions, which occasioned the Archbishop's banishment. After *Becket's* murder, this Bishop was sent Ambassador to Pope *Alexander* the Third, to endeavour to effect a reconciliation between him, and King *Henry*, which he performed, and returned home with great honour. In this Bishop's time, *Baldwin* surnamed, of *Exeter*, (being a native of that City) presided in the Archiepiscopal chair of *Canterbury*; he was born of poor parents, but from his childhood evinced a great desire of learning, by which he attracted the notice of the Prior, and Monks, of *St. Nicholas* § in this City,

§ The only instructors at that time, were Monks and Friars, and the little learning then known, was entirely confined to the Cloisters.

City, who instructed him in school divinity, and other branches of Learning, taught in those times; under these instructors, he obtained great literary knowledge, and through merit alone, was advanced to the highest dignities in the *English Church*. CHAP. V.

Between those fellow Citizens, *Bartholomew* and *Baldwin*, an early intimacy commenced, which lasted during their lives. This Bishop presided over his Diocese about fourteen years, but where he died, or was buried, is not ascertained. \*

19th. John (surnamed the *Chanter*, from his office,) having been *Precentor* of this Cathedral, was consecrated and installed Bishop of this Diocese, in 1184. He continued the building of his Cathedral, wherein he was nothing inferior to his predecessors; he died in 1191, (after being Bishop of this See, about six years,) and was interred on the South side of his own Church, opposite the door leading to the Bishop's palace. A. D.  
1184.  
John the  
Chanter.

20th. *Henry Marshall*, Archdeacon of *Stafford*, brother to *Walter*, Earl Marshal of *England*, was consecrated by *Hubert*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1191. He proceeded in the work begun by his predecessors, with much vigour, and completed the Choir of the Cathedral; after which he purchased the Manor of *Woodbury*, (of one *Albermarle*,) which he gave and impropriated to the Vicars Choral of his Church. He died, after governing his Diocese with great reputation twelve years; and was interred on the North side of the Choir of his Cathedral, under an altar tomb, erected in 1206, on which his effigy lays at full length, with a mitre on his head, and a crosier in his hand: the whole well executed in grey marble: but no inscription remains. 1191.  
Henry Marshall.

21st. *Simon de Apulia*, by birth, an *Italian*, was installed in 1206: he revived the ordinances of his primitive predecessor *Leofricus*, that all his Canons should take their diet in common at one table; and for this purpose, a steward was appointed to provide them necessary victuals. During this Bishop's time, two learned men flourished, viz. *Joseph Iscanus* (so named from receiving his birth in this City) and *Alexander Nequam*, Prior of *St. Nicholas*. 1206.  
Simon de  
Apulia.  
  
Joseph  
Iscanus.  
Alexander  
Nequam.

The former was deep learned in the Greek and Latin languages, an excellent Mathematician, and well acquainted with the liberal sciences: the latter was a profound philosopher, an eloquent orator, a pleasant poet, and well versed in divinity.

About 1212, *John* (surnamed) *Devonius* a native of this Johannes  
connty, Devonius.

\* *Mr. Isaac*, in his list of Bishops of *Exeter*, says he was buried in his own Church.



**CHAP. V.** county, was much noticed for his learning and other qualifications: he was greatly in favour with King *John*, who made him his Chaplain and Confessor; he was an intimate acquaintance of his countryman, *Baldwin*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and was made Abbot of *Ford* in this County, by the Pope; he wrote several learned treatises: was buried in his Abbey of *Ford*, much lamented by all that knew him. *Simon de Apulia* held his See eighteen years, and was buried in his own Church, on the North side of the choir, behind the pulpit, under a plain altar tomb; but no inscription or effigy is remaining to his memory.

A. D.  
1224.

William  
Brewer.

22d. *William Brewer* was elected soon after the death of *Simon*, and was consecrated by *Stephen Langton*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*. He was descended from a noble family, being brother to *William Brewer*, Earl of *Devon*. He was much esteemed for his wisdom, and in great favour with King *Henry* the Third, who selected him as a guardian to conduct his Sister, the Lady *Isabella*, into *Germany*, to her intended marriage with the Emperor *Frederic*: through the whole of which journey he was received with the greatest honours; and after having executed his commission to the satisfaction of all parties, he returned home loaded with presents.

Constitutes  
a Dean and  
24 Preben-  
daries in his  
Church.

Soon after his return, he constituted a *Dean* and twenty-four Prebendaries within his Cathedral: to the Deanry he impropriated the Rectories of *Brampton* and *Colliton Rawleigh*; and for the support of the Prebendaries he purchased lands, the rent of which amounted (at that time) to 4*l.* each annually: of these Prebendaries he constituted his Chapter. † He governed his Diocess with great reputation about nineteen years, and was interred in the middle of the choir of his Cathedral, under a plain marble stone.

1245.

Richard  
Blondy.

23d. *Richard Blondy* was consecrated by *Boniface*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in 1245. He is reported to have been a man of meek temper and mild disposition: being much advanced in years, he was entirely governed by the principal officers of his household, who taking advantage of his weakness, endeavoured to enrich themselves by granting conveyances of Estates, and advowsons of Church livings, without his knowledge or consent; but these nefarious practices being timely discovered, *Lodeswell* his Chancellor, *Sutton* his Registrar, *Fitzherbert* his Official, and *Ernestow* the keeper of his Seal, the principal offenders, were excommunicated, and obliged

Four of the  
Bishop's  
principal  
officers do  
penance in  
the Cathed-  
ral.

† From this account, it appears that the whole of the Prebendaries originally constituted the Chapter, though now confined to the Canons only.

obliged by the succeeding Bishop, to do open penance † for their crimes, and this they accordingly performed on Palm Sunday, 19th March, 1257, in the Cathedral of *St. Peter*. Bishop *Blondy*, held his See near twelve years, and was buried on the North side of his own Church.

CHAP. V:

24th. *Walter Branscombe* was consecrated at *Canterbury*, by Archbishop *Boniface* on Palm Sunday, 1258. He was a native of this City and of poor parentage; but being of good disposition and fond of reading, his parents, with the assistance of friends, placed him at School, where he made so great a proficiency, that he was removed to *Oxford*; and there, by his diligent application to study, he made himself complete master of most branches of literature then taught in the public Schools. From *Oxford* he was elected to the Episcopal chair of this Diocese; but not having taken on him Priest's orders, his consecration was deferred (according to the rules of the Church) till he had so qualified himself.

A. D.  
1258.Walter  
Branscombe.

During his Episcopal dignity he acquired great riches, and highly distinguished himself by his generosity and bounty: among many other acts of benevolence, he purchased the Barons of *Rokesdon* and *Clist*, and gave them to the Hospital of *St. John*, in this City: founded a College for Canons-regular, at *Glascency* near *Penryn* in *Cornwall*, and instituted, in his own Church, a Feast, named *St. Gabriels*.

Very bountiful to the Church, &amp;c.

Notwithstanding these marks of his benevolent disposition, he is taxed with fraudulently obtaining the patronage of *Clist Fomeson*, (now called *Sowton*.) The story is related by Historians, in the following manner.

Remarkable instance of his getting possession of the living of Sowton.

The Bishop having built a large house for the residence of himself and his successors, at *Clist-sackville* (now Bishop's *Clist*) and being desirous of enlarging the estate, prevailed on the Dean and Chapter to give up to him a contiguous estate named *Cornishwood*: not contented with this, he wanted the patronage of the Church of *Clist Fomeson* also, and made application for that purpose to the owner, *Mr. Fomeson*, who positively refused surrendering his paternal estate, which had long been the residence of his Ancestors. The Bishop was much displeased at this, and a circumstance happened soon after, which enabled him to obtain by compulsion what he could not get by persuasion.

A Friar, the Bishop's Chaplain and Confessor, died in the Bishop's house at *Clist*, and according to custom, ought to have been buried at *Farrington*, in which Parish the Bishop's

I i 2

house

† A very small punishment for so heinous an offence, and plainly proves how easily, in those days, Ecclesiastics got their necks clear of the halter.

CHAP. V. house was situated; but that being at some distance, the weather rainy, and the roads deep and dirty, his Lordship ordered the corpse to be carried to the Church of *Clist Fomeson*, which was near and adjoining to his Manor, and separated only by the small river *Clist*. *Mr. Fomeson* receiving notice of this intended funeral, and that a *Leach-way* was to be made through his lands without his consent, and being moreover, well aware of the crafts of the Clergy, called out his tenants together, and went to the bridge, the only avenue from one estate to the other; there he met the Bishop's men bringing the Corpse, and strictly forbid them from trespassing on his lands; but they persisting, and attempting to force a passage, a scuffle ensued, and in the conflict the body of the poor Friar fell into the water, and was thoroughly soused; a very heinous crime in those days. The Bishop was highly exasperated at such irreverent usage of a holy Friar, his own Chaplain and Confessor, and sued *Mr. Fomeson* at law; nor did he cease harrassing him, till he had brought him to a compliance of surrendering his patronage of the Church, and a piece of land, in order to save the remainder.

This Bishop held his Diocese about twenty-three years, and was buried on the South side of the Lady's Chapel, in his own Cathedral. On a sumptuous tomb is his effigy at full length in pontifical robes, and other insignia of his sacerdotal office: the canopy is decorated with angels holding labels, on which were legends, which, with the Epitaph, is now mostly obliterated; the copy of the latter as preserved by *Mr. Isaac* in his memorials, follows:

*Olim sincerus pater omni dignus amore,  
Primus Walterus magno jacet hic in honore,  
Edidit hic plura dignissima laude statuta,  
Quæ tanquam jura sercant nunc hic omnia tuta:  
Atque hoc Collegium quod Glasney plebs vocat omnis,  
Condidit egregium, pro voce data sibi somnis,  
Quot loca construxit? pietatis quot bona fecit?  
Quam sanctam duxit vitam, vox dicere quæ scit?  
Laudibus immensis jubilet gens Exoniensis,  
Et chorus & turbæ, quod notus in hæc fuit urbe,  
Plus si scire velis, Festum statuit Gabrielis.  
Gaudeat in cælis igitur pater iste fidelis.*

A. D.  
1281.  
Peter Quivill.

The body  
of the Ca-  
thedral be-  
gun.

25th. *Peter Quivill* was installed Bishop of this Diocese, 10th December, 1281. He was a great benefactor to his Church, and first began the building of the Nave, or body of the Church from the choir, Westward; of this he laid the foundation; he first instituted the office of sub-dean, and appropriated the Rectory of *Eglosshall* in *Cornwall* for its support; he

he also added greatly to the revenues of the Precentor, § by CHAP. V. granting them the impropriations of *Paington* and *Chudleigh*. He was a great benefactor to the Hospital of *St. John*, in this City, which he endowed with goods and lands.

In the year 1285, the murder of the Chanter, *Walter Lechlade* happened, which occasioned the King's visiting this City, as has been already mentioned in the Civic part of this history; and the dispute broke out between Bishop *Quivill* and the *Franciscan* Friars, which occasioned him much trouble: his death was sudden, from drinking a sirup too hastily. This happened in the year 1292, in the 11th of his Episcopal dignity, and he was buried in the Chapel of the Virgin *Mary*, of his own Church.

A sudden accident occasions the Bishop's death.

A. D. 1293.

26th. *Thomas Bitton* was elected Bishop in the year following: the See of *Canterbury* being vacant at this time, he was consecrated by *John Roman*, Archbishop of *York*. Bishop *Bitton* continued the building of his Cathedral; and was a great patron of learning and learned men, particularly those in his own Diocese; among those of most note were *Robert de Plympton*, a Canon-regular of the Abbey of *Plympton*, and professor of Divinity; he wrote two books, the titles of which are not mentioned: *Walter of Excester*, a *Franciscan* Friar of *St. Carocus* in *Cornwall*, who at the request of one *Baldwin of Excester*, wrote the noted history of *Guy, Earl of Warwick*; *William of Excester*, D. D. Warden of the *Franciscan* Friars in this City; and *Godfrey* (surnamed) *de Cornwall*, Lecturer in Divinity sometime at Paris. Bishop *Bitton* died in 1306, and was interred in the choir of his own Church, near the foot of the High Altar. \*

Thomas Bitton.

Learned men at this time.

1307.

27th. *Walter Stapleton* was consecrated 28th December, 1307, by *Robert Winchelsea* Archbishop of *Canterbury*. He was descended from a noble Family, and was so eminent for his learning, wisdom, and political knowledge, that he obtained the King's favour, who made him one of his Privy Council, and Lord High Treasurer of *England*. His installation was attended

Walter Stapleton.

§ *Mr. Hooker* says he founded the office of *Chanter*; but this must be a mistake, as Bishop *John* (surnamed) the *Chanter*, filled that dignity in this Cathedral before the year 1184, that is near a century before this period.

\* On removing the old pavement of the choir, in the year 1763, the body of Bishop *Bitton* was discovered, enclosed in a lead coffin; the body was almost entire, and clothed in pontifical vestments, the face was covered with a sudarium, which had the appearance of tinder, (through age,) in the coffin was a small chalice and paten, of silver gilt, and among the dust was found a gold ring, in which was a large emerald. The body, after having been inspected by the then Dean, (*Mills*,) was again deposited in the same grave, and arched over; but the chalice, paten and ring were preserved by order of the Chapter, and enclosed in a box, with a glazed lid, for the inspection of the curious.

CHAP. V. attended with great solemnity. On entering the City, he was met by the Mayor, and Citizens in their livery gowas, and a great number of Gentlemen of the first distinction in the County of *Devon*. On alighting from his horse, he was conducted on foot to the Cathedral: the streets were covered all the way with black cloth, which was given afterwards to the poor.

Hugh Courtenay, Esq. claims the Office of Chief Steward at the installation feast.

Fees for executing the said office.

Previous to this ceremony a great dispute arose: *Hugh Courtenay*, Esq. Son and heir to *Sir Hugh Courtenay*, Knight, claimed the honour of being *Chief Steward* at the Feast, as holding the Manor of *Slapton* by that service, but a compromise took place on the following conditions: that the said claimant and his heirs, should at the installation of every Bishop meet him at the Eastgate of the City of *Exeter*, and from thence proceeding on his right hand to the choir of the Cathedral, should prevent the people from crowding or pressing on him, and so incommoding him; and that he should at the said installation feast, serve in the first course, at the Bishop's own table; and that in consideration of the said service, they should have for their fee, four *Silver dishes*, (of those which shall have been placed at the first course) two *Salts*, one *Cup*, (out of which the Bishop shall have drank at the said feast) one *Wine pot*, one *Spoon*, and two *Basons*, all which vessels shall be of *Silver*; and that in case the said claimant or his heirs, should be sick, or in nonage, and not capable of performing the duties of the Office, proper substitutes should be provided; and, in case of non compliance, the Fees should not be demanded.

The Bishop's great charity.

This agreement was made at *Newton Plympton*, and given under the Seals of the said Bishop, Dean, and Chapter, the morrow after the feast of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, Anno 1308, witnessed by *William Martin*, *Philip Courtenay*, *Thomas Chichester*, *Stephen Haccomb*, *Roger Novant*, *Thomas Archdeacon*, *John Bickton*, and *John Troyagn*, Knights; *Robert Stockhay*, *John Buttesgate*, *Robert Up-Ex*, and *Henry Buckerell*, Esquires. This Prelate greatly increasing in wealth, employed part of it to the most beneficent purposes. He founded, and endowed, two houses in *Oxford*, one named *Stapleton's Inn*, (since *Exeter College*) the other, *Hart-Hall*; and among other charities he was a great benefactor to *St. John's Hospital*, in this City, to which he granted the impropriated Rectory of *Ernescombe*, for the relief of the poor children in the said Hospital.

About the year 1322, he was sent Ambassador to France, to endeavour to reconcile the differences between the two Courts, which he effected; but, in the unhappy disputes which soon after broke out between King *Edward*, and his Queen

Queen *Isabella*, he strenuously asserted the cause of his Sovereign, and was by him, made *Custos* of the City of *London*. Refusing to deliver up the keys of the *Tower*, to the Mob, (the Queen's party) they broke open his Palace, and plundered it of all his plate, jewels, and household goods. The Bishop to escape their fury, endeavoured to fly to the Cathedral of *St. Pauls*, but being overtaken, they dismounted him, beat and insulted him in a cruel manner, dragged him into *Cheapside*, and there proclaimed him a *Traitor*; he was then beheaded, with two of his domestics; after which, their bodies were drawn from the place of execution, and buried in the rubbish of a *Tower* which the unfortunate Bishop was erecting near the *Thames*.

CHAP. V.  

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The Bishop and his brother murdered by the Londoners.

Soon after, his brother *Sir Richard Stapleton*, was seized, and murdered in a similar manner: these cruel assassinations were committed on the 15th of October, 1327. The Bishop's body, and that of his brother, were soon after, taken up, and removed to this City, and received interment with great solemnity, on the North side of the High Altar, in the Cathedral, and an elegant monument was erected. In this, which is beautifully decorated with Gothic sculptures, the Bishop's effigy lays at full length, in his Pontifical robes, and other insignia, painted and gilt; on the canopy over, is painted the figure of our blessed Saviour, with his hands extended, and the wounds he received by the nails, at his crucifixion, are depicted on them and his feet. On a large circular entablature, is a long *Latin* inscription, relating the particular passages of his life, and an account of his death. It was repaired some years ago, and repainted and gilt at the expence of *Exeter College*, Oxford.

*Sir Richard Stapleton's* Monument, is in the wall of the North aisle, opposite to that of his brother. His effigy lays at full length in complete Armour, but it is now much mutilated, and the inscription defaced.

28th. *James Berkley*, descended from the noble family of the *Lord Berkley* in *Gloucestershire*, was consecrated Bishop of this Diocese soon after the murder of his predecessor; but enjoyed not the dignity long, for he died within four months after his consecration, and there is no certain account of the place of his interment.

A. D.  
1328.

James  
Berkley.

29th. *John Grandison*, of noble birth, being descended from the *Dukes* of *Burgundy*, and who was in *Italy* when *Bishop Berkley* died, was appointed by the King his successor; and this nomination being approved by the Pope *John* 22d, he consecrated him Bishop of this Diocese, 18th October, 1328. He was much addicted from his childhood to

John Grandison.

**CHAP. V.** to Literature, in which he made so great a proficiency, that at an early age he was appointed professor of Divinity, on which he wrote two Books, viz. *Pontificales Majores* and *Pontificales Minores*: these gained him the esteem of the Pope so much that he made him one of his Privy council, and Apostolical Nuncio.

In this quality he sent him as his Ambassador to the principal potentates of *Europe*; his last embassy was to *England*, (his native country) where the great talents he displayed caused him to be noticed by King *Edward*, who procured his dismissal from the Pope's service, and gave him the Archdeaconry of *Nottingham*, with several other benefices, made him one of his Privy council, and fixed him in this Bishopric where he acquired great riches and employed them in acts of charity and benevolence.

**Bishop Grandison's expensive buildings.** He built and endowed the College of *St. Mary Oltery*, was a great benefactor to the Choral Vicars of his own Cathedral, and to the College of *Glasceny* near *Penryn*: he built the two last arches and the West front of the Cathedral, vaulted the roof, and thus completed a building begun 437 years before; the first foundation having been laid in the reign of King *Athelstan*: † he also gifted large quantities of Plate, Ornaments, &c. on the Cathedral.

**St. Peter's Cathedral finished.**

At *Bishop's Teignton* he erected a large house, which he well furnished, and left to his successors: he impropriated to it the Parsonage of *Radway*, for this purpose, (as he expresses in his last will) "that they should have a place to retire to, "should the King seize their temporalities." ‡ He greatly retrenched the expences of living, practised by his predecessors, and notwithstanding the great charge of building, and the sums he expended in charity, he was at his death, possessed of great riches, which he left entirely to charitable uses, and legacies to friends and relations.

**William of Excester preaches against the Clergy,** At this time, *William of Excester*, a learned man and Canon of the Cathedral, with several others, preached against the temporal possessions of the clergy, asserting that *Christ* and his Apostles were poor men; neither was any Prince, or layman subject to the Pope, except in matters of religion.

This doctrine greatly alarmed the court of *Rome*, and *William* with his Abettors, were excommunicated. The Canon affrighted

† The reader will remember, that the original building, founded by King *Athelstan*, was destroyed by *Sweyne* and his *Danes*.

‡ This prediction of the Bishop, seemed almost prophetic, for not only this house and impropriation, but the greatest part of this Bishopric's temporalities are alienated and become the inheritance of Laymen.

affrighted at the threats of being proceeded against, with CHAP. V. his associates, as heretics, and to save his life and livings, secretly left his companions, and openly recanted his former but recants. doctrine.

*Bishop Grandison*, occupied the Episcopal Chair near 42 years: he died on St. Swithin's day, 1369, and was interred in a small Chapel, in the front wall of his own Cathedral. §

30th. *Thomas Brentingham*, a native of *Devon*, was elected nearly at one time, Bishop of this Diocess and that of *Hereford*; but preferring the see of *Exeter*, he was consecrated accordingly, on 10th March, 1370, by *William*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*. He was highly respected for his great experience in the laws, both civil and ecclesiastical; and was one of the 13 Peers appointed by Parliament, in the 10th year of Richard 2d. to take charge of the affairs of the nation. In the year 1377, he was made Lord Treasurer of *England*, and one of the King's Privy council; he finished the buildings in the *Calendar hay*, † which were begun by the preceding Bishop for the habitations of the Vicars Choral; and after well governing his Diocess 24 years, died on 3d December, 1394. He was buried on the North side of the body of his own Church, under a large marble stone, whereon was his effigy inlaid with brass, which is now so defaced, that nothing but the brass studs which fastened it are remaining.

31st. *Edmund Stafford*, brother to *Ralph*, Lord *Stafford*, was consecrated at *Lambeth* by *William Courtenay*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*: He was a learned man, and from his abilities was advanced to be one of the King's Privy council, and Lord Privy seal; he founded two Fellowships in *Stapledon Inn*, *Oxford*; he also reformed the statutes of the said house and refounded it by the name of *Exeter College*: he governed his Diocess about twenty-three years with much honour, and died 4th September, 1419: he lies on the North side of the *Virgin Mary's* Chapel in a beautiful tomb, on which is his effigy elegantly carved in *Alabaster*. This monument was greatly injured in the troubles of King *Charles* 1st and the inscription is totally obliterated.

32d. *John Catherike*, a native of *Cheshire*, was translated from the See of *Litchfield* to this Diocess, and installed on 8th K k November, 1419.

§ According to *Mr. Isaac* (who was living at the time,) his tomb was ransacked by the Parliament soldiers in the grand rebellion, and his lead coffin taken up, in hopes of prey; his ashes scattered about, and his bones thrown, no one knew where. This Chapel which had been made a receptacle for filth, was of late years cleansed by order of the Dean and Chapter; the walls white washed, and windows glazed; but there is no inscription or Memento to the memory of this beneficent Prelate!

† Now the College.



**CHAP. V.** November, 1419. He did not long enjoy his new dignity, as he died within two months after his installation, on his journey to *Rome*, at *Avignon* in *France*, where he was buried.

**James Cary.** 33d. *James Cary*, Bishop of *Chester*, a native of this country, being at *Rome* when the account of *Bishop Stafford's* death came to *Pope Martin 5th*, was, by him, made and consecrated Bishop of this Church: but he did not long hold the promotion; he died within six weeks after, and was there interred.

**A. D.**  
1420.

**Edward**  
**Lacie.**

34th. *Edmund Lacie*, Bishop of *Hereford*, was thence translated to this See; he was esteemed as a learned, and religious man, but is accused of paying too much attention to flatterers, which often led him into errors. He was very strenuous in supporting the liberties of his Church, and this occasioned a long and troublesome lawsuit, between him and the citizens of *Exeter*, which was at last ended by arbitration. He claimed cognizance of all pleas within his Court and liberties.

In the second year of his Bishopric, great complaints were made, in the parliament held at *Westminster*, against the dissolute lives of the Monks, and other religious fraternities; and the matter being brought before a general convocation of the Clergy, this Bishop (being chosen Prolocutor) made a learned oration on the subject, wherein he lamented that religious men should use such practices, contrary to the rules of their profession, and at the conclusion, he presented several articles in writing, praying for a reformation.

In this convocation it was finally agreed, that every third benefice in the gift of any of the Prelates, or Monasteries, should thenceforth be bestowed (for seven years) on some scholar of either of the Universities of *Oxford* or *Cambridge*.

*Bishop Lacie* was a great benefactor to the College of Vicars Choral: he died on the 25th March, 1455, and was interred on the North side of the Choir of his own Cathedral. \*

After his death many miracles (according to the ignorance and superstition of the times) were said to have been wrought at his tomb; and this occasioned a great resort of the common people to it, in pilgrimages, and to be healed of their different diseases.

1455.  
**George**  
**Nevil.**

35th. *George Nevil* (the second son of *Richard Nevil*, Earl of *Salisbury*) a young man not twenty years of age, was promoted

\* A plain altar tomb of variegated marble covers the remains of this Bishop; on the upper stone was inlaid his effigy in brass or some other metal, as plainly appears by indented marks: there is no sculpture or inscription to be seen; but on the top of the choir-screen directly over the tomb, is a large shield on which are the *Lacies* arms; three Shovellers (or Wild Duck's) heads, erased.

promoted to this See, and consecrated 25th November, 1455. **CHAP. V.**  
 At the age of twenty-five he was made one of the King's Privy council, and Lord Chancellor of *England*; and soon after elected Chancellor of the University of *Oxford*. He finished the building of the Chapter house, which was begun by *Bishop Lacie*. After holding this Bishopric about ten years, he was translated to the Archiepiscopal Chair of York, A. D. 1468.

The Chapter house finished.

36th. *John Booth*, a native of *Cheshire*, was elected, and consecrated by *Thomas Bouchier*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, 22d February, 1466. He erected the stately throne for the Bishops, in the choir, and during his residence governed his Diocese with honour: but, on the unhappy disputes arising between the Earl of *Warwick*, and King *Edward 4th*, he removed, for more security, to his own house at *Horsleigh* in *Hampshire*, where he died, in the twelfth year of his Prelacy, 5th April, 1478; and his remains were interred in the Church of *St. Clement-Danes*, without *Temple-bar*, *London*.

A. D. 1466.

*John Booth*.

*Bishop's throne erected.*

37th. *Peter Courtenay*, (descended from the ancient Earls of *Devon*) was the third son of *Sir Philip Courtenay* of *Powderham Castle*; he was educated at *Exeter College*, *Oxford*, where he took the Degree of Bachelor of Laws: he then went to *Italy*, and had the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred on him by the University of *Padua*, and in the year 1477, he was admitted to the same degree in *Oxford*, with great solemnity, and gave a splendid entertainment on the occasion to the University.

1479.

*Peter Courtenay*.

Soon after his return he was made *Archdeacon* of *Exeter*, and in a short time after, *Dean* of the same. While in this dignity, a dispute arose between the Mayor and Corporation of *Exeter*, and the incorporated Company of *Tailors*, which, after the expenditure of large sums of money in Law, was left to be determined by King *Edward 4th*, who sent his final decision to *Doctor Peter Courtenay*, to be by him delivered to the contending parties.

In 1479 he was promoted to the vacant Bishopric of this Diocese, and consecrated by *Thomas*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*; and no sooner had he taken possession of the Episcopal Chair than he began to reform the abuses which had crept into his Diocese, to fill up the vacant benefices, and to retrench the pluralities of the Clergy: but in the year 1483, when *Richard*, Duke of *Gloucester* had murdered his Nephews and usurped the throne, the Bishop with his brother *Sir Edward* and several others of the *Courtenay* Family entered into a conspiracy with the Duke of *Buckingham*, &c. to dethrone the usurper and place the *Earl of Richmond* on the

*Bishop Courtenay conspires with others, against throne, Richard 3d.*

K k 2

**CHAP. V.** throne. These intentions being discovered before they were brought to a state of maturity, *Buckingham* was taken and beheaded; but the Bishop and his friends by a timely flight into *Britany* escaped the vengeance of *Richard*. Here he continued with the *Earl of Richmond*, and afterwards accompanied him in his successful expedition into this kingdom.

Escapes to France.

Is restored to his Diocess.

Bishop Courtenay finishes the North Tower, &c.

On *Richmond's* gaining possession of the Crown, the Bishop was restored to his Diocess; and in the year 1486, in reward for his good services, King *Henry 7th* translated him to the valuable Bishopric of *Winchester*.

During his residence in the Diocess of *Exeter*, he expended great sums in extending and beautifying his Cathedral, finished the building of the North Tower and placing in it the great bell weighing twelve thousand five hundred lbs. (called from his name, *Peter's* bell;) he erected a very curious clock (for the invention of those days) which shews the changes of the Moon, the day of the Month, and the hour of the day. † He repaired and beautified his Episcopal palace in this City, (as appears by an elegant chimney piece still remaining) he was a great benefactor to the Poor: and died at *Winchester* on the 20th December, 1491, and (according to *Bishop Godwin*) was interred in that Cathedral; but *Mr. Cleveland* thinks he was buried in *Powderham* Church; for he says that in the middle of the chancel of that Church there is a broad stone, on which is the effigy of a Bishop with his mitre, inlaid in brass, which could not be designed for *Archbishop Courtenay*, he not being of the *Powderham* family; nor for *Richard Courtenay Bishop of Norwich*, as he was buried in *Westminster Abbey*.

A. D. 1486.

Rich. Fox.

38th. *Richard Fox*, born in *Lincolnshire*, was on the translation of *Bishop Courtenay*, elected to this See, and consecrated by *Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury*, in 1486. He was much esteemed for his learning, and other qualifications; and being a student at *Paris*, during the exile of the *Earl of Richmond*, (afterwards *Henry 7th*) he became acquainted with him, assisted him with his advice, and accompanied him in his perilous expedition to *England*.

This enterprize succeeding, he was much noticed by the King, who made him one of his Privy council, and Lord Privy seal; sent him also several times, Ambassador to the Kings of *France* and *Scotland*, in which capacity, he executed the trusts with such wisdom and fidelity, that the King held him in high favour, and made him Godfather to his second son, who was afterwards King *Henry 8th*.

He

† This Clock was thoroughly repaired, and a minute part added about the year 1760, by *Mr. William Howard*, an ingenious mechanic of this City, at the expence of the Dean and Chapter.

He was a great encourager of learning, and in part founded **CHAP. V.**  
*Corpus Christi College*, in *Oxford*. After presiding six years  
 over this Diocese, he was translated to *Bath*, and thence to the  
 Bishopric of *Winchester*, where (having lost his sight through  
 age,) he died, and was buried in the Cathedral.

39th. *Oliver King*, a native of *Cornwall*, being appointed  
 to this See, was consecrated by *John Morton*, Archbishop of  
*Canterbury*, on the 20th February, 1492. He was Chaplain  
 to *Henry 7th*; Dean of *Windsor*, and Registrar of the Order of  
 the Garter. He held this See about five years, and died in  
 1497, and (according to *Mr. Isaac*,) was buried at *Windsor*.

A. D.  
1492.

*Oliver King*.

40th. *Richard Redman*, descended from a most respectable  
 family in *Hertfordshire*, was translated, on the death of *Bishop*  
*King*, from a Bishopric in *Wales*, to this Diocese, and instal-  
 led 14th December, 1499. He left no particular memorials  
 behind him, saving an estimation for his wisdom and erudi-  
 tion: after five years residence in this See, he was translated  
 to that of *Ely*.

1499.

*Richard*  
*Redman*.

41st. *John Arundel*, a descendant from the ancient and re-  
 spectable Family of the *Arundels* of *Lhan-herne*, in *Cornwall*,  
 was translated from the See of *Litchfield* and *Coventry*, at his  
 own request, and was installed Bishop of this Diocese, on the  
 15th March, 1504; but he did not long enjoy it, as, having  
 occasion to ride to *London*, two years after his installation, he  
 died there, and was buried in *St. Clement Danes Church*,  
 without *Temple Bar*, near his predecessor, *Bishop Booth*.

1504.

*John Arun-*  
*del*.

42d. *Hugh Oldham*, a native of *Lancashire*, Chaplain to the  
 Countess of *Richmond* and *Derby*, (Mother to *King Henry 7th*)  
 was through her interest, promoted to this See. It is related  
 of him, that he was a man of more zeal than knowledge, and  
 that though rough in his speech, he was friendly in his acti-  
 ons. He strongly defended the liberties and prerogatives of  
 his Church, which caused continual lawsuits between him  
 and the overbearing Abbot of *Tavistock*.

1506.

*Hugh Old-*  
*ham*.

He was very liberal to the Vicars Choral of his Cathedral; A great be-  
 nefactor to  
 he repaired their College, and brought them back to their an-  
 cient usage of keeping Commons, for the maintenance of  
 which, he increased their revenues, and impropriated to their  
 use, the rectory of *Cornwood*. the Vicars  
 Choral.

Though he was not a learned man himself, he was a great  
 promoter of public schools and seminaries, for giving learning  
 to others: he and *Bishop Fox*, of *Winchester*, were the joint  
 founders of *Corpus Christi College*, in *Oxford*, and which they  
 endowed with great revenues. He founded and endowed a  
 school at *Manchester*, for the instruction of youth, in good  
 and useful literature.

At

**CHAP. V.** At the time of his death, on 25th June, 1523, the suit between him and the *Abbot of Tavistock* not being terminated, he was under the sentence of excommunication, and his body was not suffered to be interred, till an absolution was procured from *Rome*: this being obtained, he was buried in a Chapel purposely erected, at the upper end of the South aisle in his own Cathedral.

This Chapel has a vaulted stone roof, decorated in compartments, with his cypher H O, and owls, being a part of his armorial bearings. At the East end, is a mutilated Altar, over which was a beautiful representation, cut in stone in alto relievo, of our Saviour's Birth, Passion and Resurrection; but the whole was greatly injured by the fanatic hands of the parliamentary soldiers, in the grand rebellion: on the South side is the Bishop's tomb, under the Arch of which, is his effigy lying at full length, clothed in the pontifical habit, a mitre on his head, and crosier in his hand, the whole painted and gilt, and on the architrave over the tomb, is this inscription in gold letters, †

Hic Jacet Hugo Oldham eps. q' obiit xxv  
die Junij An. Dni. millo cccccxxiii.

43d. *John Voisey*, (alias *Harman*) born at *Sulton Colefield*, in *Warwickshire*, was on the death of *Bishop Oldham*, preferred by *King Henry 8th*, to this Bishopric. He was greatly favoured in the early part of his life, by the King, who employed him in several embassies, made him Lord President of *Wales*, and entrusted to his care, the government and education of his daughter *Mary*, who so strongly imbibed while under his tuition, the superstitions of the Romish Church, that they never after could be eradicated.

**Bishop  
Voisey's  
prodigality  
almost ruins  
the See of  
Exeter.**

This Bishop affected great pomp, he attended the Court, and kept a large retinue of servants, all which, was attended with such great expences, that he almost alienated the revenues of his Bishopric: out of twenty-five Lordships and manors, enjoyed and left by his predecessors, of great yearly income, he left but three, and those leased out: of fourteen Houses well furnished, and the demesnes well stocked with cattle, deer &c. he left to his successor, only one, and that plundered of most of its furniture, and charged with several annuities.

In

† This Monument was repaired and fresh painted, in the year 1763, by the Provost and Fellows of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, from gratitude to their Founder and Benefactor, as appears on a tablet placed over the monument- *Capellam hanc Grati/udinis Ergo Sumptibus suis Ornandum Curaverunt Pr. & Soc. C. C. C. Oxon, 1763.*

In a word, by this Bishop's profuseness, the See of *Exeter* from being one of the most valuable, is become one of the poorest, and the saying of *Bishop Grandison* verified, that the *Bishop hath now scarce a place to lay his head in.* CHAP. V.

In the year 1535, the Pope having excommunicated *King Henry 8th*, he in return, threw off all subjection to, and dependence on the *Roman Pontiff*, in which he was supported by the English Parliament, which by an Act, declared the King, Supreme head of the Church of *England*, granted him the first fruits and tenths of the revenues of all benefices, together with the power of nominating to all Bishoprics: another Act was also passed, to deprive all persons charged with treason, from the privilege of Sanctuary; and thus the power of the Pope ended in this kingdom. King Henry throws off all subjection to the Pope.

The Protestant religion being established by *King Edward 6th*, *Bishop Voisey* resigned his Bishopric into the King's hands, reserving only to himself the rents of the Temporalities, and retired to the place of his nativity, *Sutton Colefield*, which he greatly improved by buildings, procured for it a charter of incorporation, grant of a weekly market, and established a manufacture of Kersies.

44th. *Miles Coverdale*, on the resignation of *Bishop Voisey*, was promoted by *King Edward 6th* to this See, and consecrated by *Thomas Cranmer*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, at *Lambeth*, in 1550. A. D. 1550.  
Miles Coverdale,

He was educated in a Convent in *Yorkshire*, where he took upon himself the habit of a Monk; but observing the dissolute lives of his companions, he left the monastery, and closely applied to reading and studying the Holy Scriptures, from which being convinced of the errors of the *Romish Church*, he became a zealous Protestant, and assisted *Mr. Tindal*, in his translation of the Bible into *English*: he also wrote several treatises against the doctrines of the then prevailing Church which made him obnoxious to the Prelates and Clergy, who persecuted him with the greatest acrimony. A zealous Protestant,

He escaped their malice by privately retiring into *Germany*, where he set up a Printing Press, and printed a great number of Bibles (of his own translation) in the *English* language, and sent them into *England*, where they were eagerly sought after, upon the profits of which he then chiefly subsisted. is forced to retire into Germany, and there prints the Bible in the English language.

This coming to the knowledge of *Stokesly*, Bishop of *London*, and other Prelates, they, in order to prevent the dispersion of the Books among the people, as it would open their eyes, and too much expose the fallacy of the *Romish* doctrine, bought them all up, thinking no more would be sent over: in this, however, they were egregiously mistaken; for the money paid for the Books being remitted to *Mr. Coverdale*,  
it

**CHAP. V.** it enabled him to print a greater number, which being secretly sent, and dispersed over the kingdom, greatly promoted the increase of the *Protestant* religion.

From this, the Prelates did all in their power to entrap him; but he, well acquainted with his danger, retired farther into *Germany*, for better security, and put himself under the protection of the *Elector Palatine*, who was a *Protestant*. There he earned at first a scanty subsistence by keeping a school for young children: but by diligent application having acquired the *German* Language, the *Elector* gave him a Benefice named *Burgh-saber*, on the profits of which, with the friendly remittances of the *Lord Cromwell*, he lived comfortably during his exile.

On the accession of King *Edward* 6th, he returned to *England* where he was much caressed, particularly by his kind Patron *Lord Russel*, who took him into his family, and made him his Chaplain: he attended his Lordship, during his expedition into the West, for the suppression of the *Devon* and *Cornish* rebels; and was, soon after, for his exemplary piety, zeal for the *Protestant* religion, and great knowledge of the scriptures, deservedly promoted to this vacant Diocese.

During his Church government, he gained the esteem of all by his benevolent disposition, extensive charity, and unaffected piety: he continually exercised his duties as a Pastor, preaching every Sabbath and Holy-day, and reading Prayers twice a week, in one or other of the Churches in this City, insomuch that he was compared to one of the Primitive Bishops.

This Sun-shine of the Gospel did not last long; for King *Edward* dying, and his bigotted Sister, *Mary*, getting possession of the reins of government, this good Bishop was deprived of his See, having held it about three years; and notwithstanding the malice of the Papists, who violently hated him, and had sworn his death, yet Providence delivered him out of their hands, by the intercession of the King of *Denmark*, to whom he was suffered to retire.

After residing there some time, he went again into *Germany*, to his former friend and protector, the *Elector Palatine*, who reinstated him in the Benefice of *Burgh-saber*, in which station he continued till the death of Queen *Mary*.

On the restoration of the *Protestant* religion by Queen *Elizabeth*, he returned to his native country, but such was his humility, that he could not be prevailed on to return to his Diocese. During the latter part of his life, he lived privately in *London*, exercising the duties of a Minister of the Gospel, till death put an end to his labours, in a good old age, 25th June, 1565;

Keeps a school for his subsistence,

Is promoted by the Elector Palatine,

returns to England,

Is made Bishop of Exeter.

Bishop Coverdale is deprived.

and again retires into Germany,

returns to England, but refuses to be reinstated in his Diocese.

1565; his remains were interred in *St. Bartholomew's Church*, CHAP. V.  
behind the *Royal Exchange, London.* §

On the deprivation of this exemplary Bishop, *John Voisey* Bishop Voisey restored.  
was restored to this Diocese, and for the better settling the *Romish* religion, he (contrary to his usual practice) remained here for some time; but having a strong attachment to his native place, he returned there for the remainder of his life: he died in the 103d year of his age, and was buried in the Parish Church there.

45th. *James Troblefield*, (or *Turburville*) a native of the county of *Dorset*, succeeded *Bishop Voisey*, and was consecrated in 1556. He was descended from a good family, and was gentle and courteous in his disposition; and though very zealous in the defence of the *Papal* doctrine, he is not taxed with being either cruel or bloody. A. D.  
1556.  
James Troblefield.

Nevertheless, to please his superiors, and that it might not be said, he did nothing, he prosecuted and condemned a poor woman, (*Agnes Priest*) for heresy, and she was accordingly burnt on *Southernhay*.

He endeavoured to recover part of the lands, alienated from the Bishopric by his Predecessor, and accordingly succeeded, in obtaining from *Queen Mary*, the Fee-farm rents of the manor of *Crediton*. On the accession of *Queen Elizabeth*, he, refusing to take the required oaths, was deprived of his Bishopric, and committed to prison; but being soon after released, he lived for the remainder of his days, a private and obscure life: he was interred in the choir of this Cathedral.

46th. *William Alleigh*, Professor of Divinity, a learned and zealous advocate for the Protestant religion, and Lecturer of *St. Paul's, London*, was preferred by *Queen Elizabeth* to this Bishopric, and installed 6th August, 1561. 1561.  
William Alleigh.

During the reign of *Queen Mary*, he being a married priest, was ejected from his living, and for a subsistence, practised physic, travelling with his wife, from place to place in the North parts of *England*, where they were not known.

His advancement in the Church, did not alter his disposition; he still continued humble, and constantly fulfilled the duties of his function: he was affable to the rich, and bountiful to the poor: loth to offend, ready to forgive: in short, his life was a continued scene of good actions. He wrote several religious books, particularly one, which he called *The Poor Man's Library*.

L 1

Queen

§ *Mr. Isaac* says he was buried in a Chapel on the South side of his own Church; but this must be a mistake, as an inscription to his memory was remaining not many years since, in the above-mentioned Church.



**CHAP. V.** Queen *Elizabeth* highly respected him, and sent him yearly a Silver Cup, as a New Years gift. He died greatly lamented, 15th April, 1570; and was interred in the Choir of his own Cathedral near the High Altar, under a marble stone, on which was the following inscription:

*Reverendus Pater Gulielmus Alleigh Exoniensis Episcopus, acerrimus Evangelicæ veritatis propugnator, morum probitate præcelebris, bonarum Disciplinarum mirabili scientia clarus, in Christo Domini sub hoc marmore quiescit. Obiit Decimo Quinto Aprilis, Anno Domini 1570.*

A. D.  
1570.  
William  
Bradbridge.

47th. *William Bradbridge*, Professor of Divinity, and Dean of *Salisbury*, was consecrated Bishop of this Diocess, at *Lambeth*, on 24th April, 1570. He left no great memorials behind him, except that he seldom resided at his Episcopal palace, but preferred a country residence, which was very troublesome to his Clergy, and others who had business with him. After holding the dignity about eight years, he died suddenly, at *Newton Ferrers*, on 29th July, 1578, and was interred on the North side of the Choir of his own Church, near the Altar, under a plain Altar tomb, over which is a tablet in the wall of the Choir, and on which was an inscription, but it is now entirely obliterated, and whitewashed over: there is still a shield remaining, on which is his Coat of Arms, a Pheon argent, carved in relievo.

1578.  
John Wol-  
ton.

48th. *John Wolton*, a native of *Lincolnshire*, Canon residentiary of this Church, succeeded, and was consecrated at *Lambeth*, 24th August, 1578. He very early professed the Protestant religion, and which doctrine he most zealously preached: this making him obnoxious to the Roman Catholics, he was forced to take refuge in *Germany*, during the reign of Queen *Mary*.

On his return, his eminent learning, and pious principles being noticed by Queen *Elizabeth*, she preferred him in the Church, and at length to this Diocess, which he worthily governed fourteen years, and dying on the 13th March, 1593 was interred on the South side of the Choir of this Cathedral; near which a monument (in an antique, and most wretched taste) is erected to his memory; on it is inscribed the following Epitaph.

*Epitaphium in obitum Reverendissimi Patris Johannis Woltoni Episcopi Exoniensis.*

*Hic jacet, haud jacet hic tumulo quem credis in esse,  
Terra nequit tantum contumulare virum,  
Ingenium, genium, mores, pietatis honores,  
Eloquiumque pium busta perusta tegent  
Falleris, Ultimus tonus est, sic spiritus unde  
Hoc nostri? tonus est caelestis orbe tonans.*

49th.

49th. *Gervis Babington*, born in this county, was translated to this See from *Landaff*, and consecrated on 2d May, 1593. He alienated the valuable manor of *Crediton*, the largest part of the Temporalities left to this Bishopric, in favour of *Sir William Killebrew*; and after holding the See about three years, he was translated to *Worcester*.

50th. *William Cotton*, D. D. after the translation of *Bishop Babington*, was consecrated to this Diocese 16 March, 1597. He was a native of *London*, and before this promotion, was Archdeacon of *Leves*, and Canon Residentiary of *St. Pauls*. He paid great attention to the duties of his Episcopal office near twenty-three years; he died 26th August, 1621, and was interred in the South aisle of his own Cathedral, where a stately monument is erected to his memory: his statue lays at full length, in Episcopal robes, well executed in Alabaster, painted in proper colours: on a large tablet over the Statue, is the following Epitaph, now partly obliterated.

*Memorie Reverendi Patris Dignissimi Præsulis Domini Gulielmi Cottoni olim Exoniensis Episcopus Sacrum.*

*Venerunt titulos alii atque encomia cœptent,  
Tu propria virtute nites (Dignissime Præsul!)  
Corda virum tumulus tibi sunt Epitaphia lingua  
Virtutisque tuæ tituli quæ dissita multis;  
Juncta tibi zelus prudens, prudentia mista  
Serpentem innocuus caute Moderata Columba  
Facta operumque fides, opera edita, & abdita mundo,  
Abdita (sic humilis pietas jubet) edita cœlo!  
Mile supercilium, facies augusta, sereni  
Vultus, majestas frontis veneranda serena,  
Ira fugas, solem raro visura cadentem  
Mensa benigna, domusque patens, aditusque paratus  
Condivit tuæ dicta lepos gravitasque leporum,  
Pacificis placidus, tantum hostis seditiosus.  
Non tibi sublimi mores inscede superbi  
Vita nec in prima (ut multis) fuit ima Cathedra  
Prælatuque gregi, sed non elatus honores es.*

And underneath is the following couplet,

*A Paulo ad Petrum pia te Regina vocavit  
Cum Petro & Paulo Cæli Rex arce locavit.*

51st. *Valentine Cary*, Dean of *St. Paul's*, and Master of *Christ's College, Cambridge*, was on the death of *Bishop Cotton*, consecrated *Bishop of Exeter*, 20th November, 1621. He held the See almost six years, and died in *London* on the 10th June, 1626, and was buried in *St. Paul's Cathedral*; but a handsome Monument was soon after erected to his memory, in the North aisle of his own Church, where his effigy lays at full

CHAP. V.

A. D.

1593.

Gervis Babington.

1597.

William Cotton.

1621.

Valentine Cary.

CHAP. V. full length, beautifully represented in Alabaster: over the effigy is the following inscription:

IN MEMORIAM VALENTINI  
CARY OLIM HUIUS ECCLESIAE EPI.  
QUI OBIIT X<sup>o</sup>. JUNIJ MDCXXVI.

And on the Plinth of the Cornice, is the following Legend,  
SANCTUS JESU CHRISTI PURGAT  
ME AB OMNI PECCATO.

A. D.

1626.

Joseph Hall

52d. *Joseph Hall*, a native of *Leicestershire*, succeeded *Bishop Cary*, and was consecrated on the 23d December, 1626. This Bishop's Piety, and Godliness were most exemplary; his charity universal, and learning most eminent; of these the voluminous works he left behind him will be a sufficient testimony as long as the *English Language* shall exist. After holding this See about fourteen years, he was translated to *Norwich*, where, notwithstanding his advanced age, he continued his studies to the last, and expired (as it were with the pen in his hand) on the 8th September, 1656. He was interred in *Hyem Church*, near *Norwich*. By his last will he desired that he might not be buried with any funeral pomp, and therein declared, that "he did not hold God's House  
" a meet repository for the bodies of the greatest Saints."

1642.

Ralph  
Brownrig.

53d. *Ralph Brownrig*, Doctor of Divinity, a gentleman of *Suffolk*, was on the translation of *Bishop Hall*, nominated to this See, and consecrated 3d May, 1642. He possessed the title of Bishop near eighteen years, but enjoyed little of the profits; for the civil wars commencing soon after his promotion, and the Puritans prevailing, Episcopacy was abolished, and all the temporalities of the Church seized into the hands of the Parliament's Commissioners, the residentiary houses of the dignified Clergy, either sold, or granted to their own creatures, and the Church made a scene of desolation. From these circumstances, this Bishop never took possession of this See, nor once visited it; but lived a private life in *London*, where he died (before the Restoration) on 7th December, 1659; and was buried in the *Temple Church*.

1660.

John Gauden.

54th. *John Gauden*, Doctor of Divinity, (born in *Essex*) was, on the happy Restoration of Monarchy, and consequently, Episcopacy, appointed by King *Charles* the second to his See, and consecrated on 2d December, 1660. On his first visitation, he was met by a great number of Gentlemen of the highest distinction in the City and County of *Devon*, who formed a grand cavalcade, and triumphantly conducted him to the Cathedral, amidst the acclamations of thousands. He filled the Episcopal chair about a year and half,

half, and was then translated to *Worcester*, where he died, on **CHAP. V.**  
21st September, 1665: and was buried there.

55th. *Seth Ward*, D. D. of *Hertfordshire*, succeeded *Bishop*  
*Gauden*, being promoted from the Deanry of this Church: he  
was consecrated on 20th July, 1662. In 1664 he consecrated  
a New Burial ground, at the lower end of *Southernhay*,  
and dedicated it to the *Holy Trinity*, on which occasion, the  
following verses were written and published,

" *What bold fac'd Sadducee dare now mistrust*  
" *That long'd-for resurrection of the just?*  
" *Whose martyr'd temples, which before our eyes*  
" *Were once distom'b, more beautiful arise;*  
" *And that the Saints have elbow-room to rest,*  
" *This day a plat profane, is truly blest!*  
" *Thou Angel of our Church! may'st thou ne'er be*  
" *Translated, 'till to Immortality!*  
" *That all our foes who do us disregard,*  
" *May be kept out by this our well-fenc'd WARD.'*"

*Bishop Ward* was translated from this Diocese, to that of  
*Salisbury*, 5th September, 1667.

56th. *Anthony Sparrow*, D. D. Author of the *Rationale* on 1667.  
the Common Prayer, was elected, on *Bishop Ward's* re- Anthony  
moval, to this See, consecrated in *London*, 3d November, Sparrow.  
1667, and installed (by Proxy) on the 23d of the same Month:  
after holding the dignity about 9 years, he was translated to  
the *Bishopric* of *Norwich*.

57th. *Thomas Lamplugh* was consecrated, *Bishop* of *Exeter*, 1676.  
at *Lambeth*, by *Gilbert*, *Archbishop* of *Canterbury*, 12th No- Thomas  
vember, 1676. On his receiving the news of the *Prince* of Lamplugh.  
*Orange's* landing at *Torbay*, he immediately set off post for  
*London*, and was the first that carried the unwelcome news  
to the Court; and was rewarded with the (then) vacant  
*Archbishopric* of *York*, which, on his compliance with the  
change in the government, was confirmed to him, by King  
*William* and Queen *Mary*.

58th. *Sir Jonathan Trelawney*, Bart. (of an ancient and 1689.  
worthy Family, in the County of *Cornwall*,) *Bishop* of *Bristol*, Sir Jona-  
was removed to this See, and consecrated 1st April, 1689. than Tre-  
He was an eminent Divine, much esteemed for his learning, lawny.  
a sound preacher, and a zealous defender of the Civil and Ec-  
clesiastical liberties of his Country, for which he had been com-  
mitted a prisoner to the Tower of *London*, as before related.  
He worthily governed his Diocese near nineteen years; and  
in 1708 was translated to *Winchester*. He died on the 20th  
July, 1721, and was interred at *Plesint* in *Cornwall*.

59th. *Offspring Blackall*, D. D. (born in *Middlesex*,) was 1708.  
consecrated Offspring  
Blackall.

CHAP. V. consecrated *Bishop of Exeter*, on the 8th February, 1708.

To this Bishop's great zeal and charitable disposition, together with his most strenuous endeavours, posterity is indebted for the foundation of the Charity Schools in this City. He was a learned and pious Prelate, an ornament to the age he lived in, and made his Diocese happy under his government for about nine years; when (on the 29th November, 1716) he was translated to partake the joys of Heaven. By his last Will, he desired to be buried without any funeral pomp, and left particular orders that no monument or tomb should be erected to his memory: but his good works will more perpetuate his name, than the perishable, though elegant touches of the Sculptor. His remains were deposited in the Chapel at the upper end of the South aisle of his own Cathedral.

A. D.  
1717.  
Lancelot  
Blackburn.

60th. *Lancelot Blackburn*, D. D. (Dean of this Church) was then elected and consecrated on 19th March, 1717. It is said that he was a perfect courtier, very haughty in his behaviour, and not much beloved by his Clergy. He filled the Episcopal chair here about seven years, and was then translated to the Archbishopric of *York*.

1724.  
Stephen  
Weston.

61st. *Stephen Weston*, D. D. succeeded in this See, and was consecrated in 1724. This Bishop was Father of a numerous family, which he placed very advantageously abroad in the world. He was meek and kind in his disposition, charitable to the poor, and discharged the duties of his function with great credit to himself and happiness to his Clergy. He died in the year 1741, and was buried in the South aisle of his Cathedral, where an elegant monument is erected to his memory: the base of the Monument is of white marble, representing a *Kist-væn*, or Stone chest, on which is erected, a large Sarcophagus of black marble, supported by carved brackets; on which an Angel stands, with wings expanded, about five feet in height, and finely executed in white Statuary marble; the figure holds a Bishop's crosier in its left hand, and points with the forefinger of the right, to an inscription which is cut on the back part of the monument, of white marble in form of a pyramid: on the upper part, in two shields, are his Lordship's arms, impaled with those of his Diocese, and of his Wife, emblazoned in their proper colours.

On the Pyramid, is a long Latin inscription, recording his amiable disposition, extensive charity, zeal for the established Religion, and well governing his Diocese; also a short memorial of his amiable widow and relict, *Lucia Weston*, who was interred in the same vault with her husband.

1742.  
Nicholas  
Clagget.

62d. *Nicholas Clagget*, on the death of *Bishop Weston*, was elected and installed in this Diocese, which he possessed about four years.

63d.

63d. *George Lavington*, Doctor of Divinity, succeeded **CHAP. V.**  
*Bishop Clagget*. This worthy and venerable Divine was uni-  
 versally beloved, and respected, for his humility, charitable  
 benevolence, and strict attention to the duties of his func-  
 tion. He left behind him, one daughter, an inheritor of his  
 virtues, wife to the Rev. Nutcombe Nutcombe, Chancellor  
 of this Church. He worthily governed the Diocese upwards  
 of fifteen years; and died on the 13th September, 1762,  
 greatly lamented, and was interred in the South aisle of his  
 own Church, behind the Bishop's throne. On a plain  
 marble tablet, fixed on the back of the throne, is the follow-  
 ing beautiful (and just) eulogium to his memory :

*To the Memory of George Lavington, L. L. D.*

*Who having distinguished himself*

*By a conscientious and disinterested attachment*

*To the cause of Liberty and the Reformation,*

*Was successively advanced to dignities*

*In the Cathedrals of Worcester and St. Pauls,*

*And lastly to the Episcopal Chair of this Church.*

*Endowed by nature with great abilities,*

*Rich in a great variety of acquired knowledge,*

*In the study of the Holy scriptures consummate,*

*He never ceased to improve his talents,*

*Nor to employ them to the noblest purposes.*

*An instructive, animated and convincing Preacher,*

*A determined enemy to Idolatry and persecution,*

*A successful Exposer of Pretence and Enthusiasm,*

*Happy in his services to the Church of Christ :*

*Happier, who could unite such extensive cares*

*With a strict attention to his immediate charge ;*

*His absences from his Diocese were short and rare,*

*And his presence was endeared to his Clergy*

*By an easy access and graceful Hospitality,*

*A winning conversation, and condescending deportment ;*

*An unaffected Sanctity dignified his instructions,*

*And indulgent candour sweetened his government.*

*At length, having eminently discharged the*

*Duties of a Man, a Christian, and a Prelate ;*

*Prepared by habitual meditation, To resign*

*Life without Regret, To meet Death without Terror ;*

*He expired, with the Praises of God upon his Lips,*

*in his 79th year, September 13th, 1762.*

67th. The Honourable *Frederic Keppel*, third son of the **1763.**  
*Earl of Albermarle*, was elected, and consecrated, Bishop of **Frederic**  
 this Diocese, in the year 1763. A false report having been **Keppel.**  
 propagated, that he had voted, in the House of Lords, for  
 the

**CHAP. V.** the Tax on Cider, he was much insulted by the populace, on his first coming to *Exeter* : but his great affability, and dignity of behaviour soon removed this odium, and he was greatly caressed. He expended great sums on the Bishop's palace, which was very much out of repair, having been sadly neglected by his Predecessors, and also made great additions to it. A complaint being made of the hardships which the inferior Clergy laboured under from the smallness of their salaries, he caused a strict enquiry to be made, and after a thorough investigation, he ordered their incomes to be increased, according to the value of the Benefices under which they served their Cures. When he had held this See for some time, His Majesty gave him the *Deanry* of *Windsor*, which he held in *commendam* with his other Benefices; but these he did not enjoy long, as he died within a few years, in the flower of his age, at his *Deanry* House there, and was interred in the Collegiate Church.

A. D.  
1778.

John Ross.

68th. *John Ross*, D. D. was promoted to this Diocess, and installed (by Proxy) on 3d February, 1778. He was unmarried, of a mild disposition, affable to all, kept but few servants, and lived retired without any pomp or ostentation. He held the See about fourteen years, and dying at his Episcopal house here, was interred in the South aisle of the Cathedral, where a small (but neat) marble Tablet is erected to his Memory, on which is the following, modest inscription.

*John Ross, Bishop of Exeter,  
Born at Ross in Herefordshire,  
June 25th, 1719,  
and Died 19th August, 1792.*

1792.  
William  
Buller.

69th. *William Buller*, D. D. Brother to Judge Buller, and Uncle to *James Buller* Esq. of *Downs*, near *Crediton*, was a descendant from the ancient and truly respectable Family of the *Bullers* of *Devon* and *Cornwall*. He was *Dean* of this Church, when His Majesty, King *George* 3d. with his Royal Consort and Daughters, condescended to visit this City, and to accept the offer of his Residentiary House for their accommodation; and His Majesty being well pleased with the great attention and respect paid him, by the *Dean*, soon after removed him to the more valuable *Deanry* of *Canterbury*; and on the death of *Bishop Ross*, recommended him to the *Dean* and *Chapter*, to be by them elected *Bishop* of this Diocess, and he was accordingly installed (by Proxy) in the year 1792. He filled the high station with great dignity, during the short time he enjoyed it: he was greatly respected, and died much lamented :

mented: his remains were interred in the South aisle of his Cathedral, opposite the door leading to the Bishop's palace; and a small elegant monument of black and white marble, is erected to his memory, in the transverse aisle, behind the High Altar, with the following inscription.

*William Buller, D. D.*

*Bishop of Exeter,*

*Born at Morval, in the County  
of Cornwall,*

*August the 20th, 1735,*

*Died December 12th, 1796.*

70th. *Henry Reginald Courtenay*, Doctor of Divinity, A. D. 1797.  
Rector of *St. George's, Hanover-Square, London*, Son of *Henry Reginald Courtenay*, Esq. sometime Member of Parliament for *Honiton*, and Grandson to *Sir William Courtenay, Bart.* of *Powderham Castle*, succeeded *Bishop Buller* in 1797.

71st. On the death of *Bishop Courtenay*, (which happened in *London*, where he was interred,) *John Fisher, D. D.* Canon of *Windsor*, and Chaplain to the Queen, was elected in his room, and consecrated at *Lambeth*, by the *Archbishop of Canterbury*, on Sunday 24th July, 1803; and soon after, making his public entry into this City, he was received with the usual respect and dignity. He is now the seventy-first Bishop of this Diocese.

*End of the fifth Chapter,*



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## CHAPTER VI.

# GENERAL

AND

## PAROCHIAL DESCRIPTION.

CHAP. VI. **A** GENERAL description of this ancient City, has already been given, in the former part of this work; therefore I shall not tire the reader's patience, with needless repetitions.

The wisdom of our Ancestors, in their choice of this site for the Capital of the *Danmonii*, must be evident to every curious observer, whether they consider it for the strength of situation, or for health and convenience: for the former, no site could better answer their purpose; situated on the sloping part of a hill, washed at the foot by a river, which, no doubt in those ages, formed an impassable morass, from the flux of the tide, and stagnated floods, and which, as the river was not banked within bounds, extended over all the valley between the City and the rising grounds at *Bowhill*. From the river, all the North side, entirely up to the Castle, is elevated ground with a steep ascent, and through the bottom, a brook spread itself, which (from reasons above-mentioned,) must have rendered the ground deep and marshy, and consequently, the approach very difficult: from the Castle to the river, Nature was assisted by sinking a deep fosse; and it is probable, that more care was taken for defence on this side, in after ages, as the only remains of Towers are (excepting one) on this part of the walls.

As to the health and convenience of their chosen spot, no place in the neighbourhood could exceed it: to the north and north east, it is covered by the heights of *Stoke*, which screen it from the bleak winds from those points; and being open to the south and west, it enjoys the prolific benefits of the sun.

The

The prospect from the City walls, is truly delightful: the eye extends over a large tract of well cultivated country, diversified with Parish Churches, Villages, Gentlemen's Seats, Farm houses, Woods and Hedge-rows; bounded by the bleak and uncultivated Hills of *Haldon*, *Penhill* and others, which terminate the prospect: it is also highly enriched by the Estuary (or arm of the Sea) from *Topskam* to *Ermouth*, the navigable canal, the meanders of the river *Ese*, and the buildings erected on the different heights, particularly *Lord Courtenay's Belvidere*, the *Obelisk* on *Haldon*, *Laurence Castle*, on *Penhill* (built by the late *Sir Robert Palk*,) with *Whitstone Church* and *Tower*: nor is that necessary article of water wanting, as besides the vicinity of the river, the whole of the Hill abounds in springs; it is also easily procured by means of wells, which are of no great depth.

The form of the City government, during the *British* and *Roman* period, is now unknown; but in the *Saxon* Era, the chief Magistrates were four in number, and were termed *Portgrewes*, from *Porta* a maritime town, and *Greve* a Ruler; after the *Norman* conquest they were reduced to two, who were stiled *Prefects* (or Provosts;) but these Magistrates had very little authority, as most of the judicial power was engrossed by the Earls of the County, and Bishops of the Diocess: this continued till the time of King *John*, who in the 2d year of his reign, A. D. 1200, granted to the citizens a charter, empowering them to elect a Mayor, and two other officers by the name of *Ballivi* (or Stewards;) these Stewards were, some time afterwards, increased in number to four.

Ancient government of the City.

By several charters which have been granted by succeeding Monarchs, the present government is invested in a Mayor, eight Aldermen, and fifteen Common council men, who form the Body-corporate of the Chamber, and have by their charters, great power and authority lodged in their hands.

Present government.

The Mayor, Recorder, and the eight Aldermen, are Justices of the Peace, within the City, and County of the City; and are also (except the junior Alderman) Justices of the Quorum: they have power to hold Courts of Gaol delivery, Quarter Sessions, &c. for Trials of Murders, Felonies, and all other crimes committed against the peace of our Sovereign Lord, the King, (except in cases of high treason) within the City, and County of the same,

The Mayor is chosen annually, on the Monday after the Feast of *St. Matthew* the Evangelist, by the Freemen assembled in Common-Hall, for that purpose, out of two members of the Chamber, who have been previously nominated to

M m 2

them,

CHAP. VI. them, by the Justices and Common Council, according to the Charter of King *Henry 7th*. At the same time, the Chamber appoints four respectable Citizens to the office of Bailiffs (or Stewards;) one of which, chosen out of their own body, is likewise appointed Receiver-general of all the Rents and Revenues belonging to the City.

The Mayor holds his Court every Monday, and Saturday, at the Guildhall; and the Stewards hold a Court every Saturday, at the same place, which is called the Steward's Court, where they preside as Judges, and try actions of debt: to this Court belong six Attornies, who must be Freemen of the City; and these alone may act as Solicitors in it.

There is also a Recorder, Sheriff, Under Sheriff, Town Clerk, Chamberlain, Deputy Town Clerk, Sword-bearer, Four Serjeants at Mace (who are termed *Sub-Ballivi*,) and Four Staff-bearers (or Scavengers,) so called from their preceding the Mayor, &c. in all public processions, with brass-headed staves. One of the Serjeants, and a Staff-bearer constantly attend, in turn, at the Mayor's house, to wait on him, and carry messages: there is likewise a Headborough (or Captain Constable) who issues all precepts to the other Constables, for billeting Soldiers, impressing Waggon, &c. and thirteen other Constables for the City, who are sworn to attend the Mayor every Sunday that he goes in State to the Cathedral; and every Monday, to and from the Guildhall.

There are twelve Constables also for the County of *Exeter*, who attend only at Quarter Sessions, and some particular occasions. Other officers are, Wardens of the Shambles, Keeper of the Sheriff's prison, &c. The Commissioners of the Court of Requests for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, are chosen from the principal citizens, at Wardmote Courts. The government of the Poor is invested in the hands of a different Corporation; but their rates are subject to the inspection of the Justices, and must be signed by them. In short, the Police of the City is well regulated: enormous crimes are seldom committed: small offences are punished, with clemency; and though no nightly watch is kept, the Streets are as quiet at night (notwithstanding the numerous inhabitants) as those of a country town.

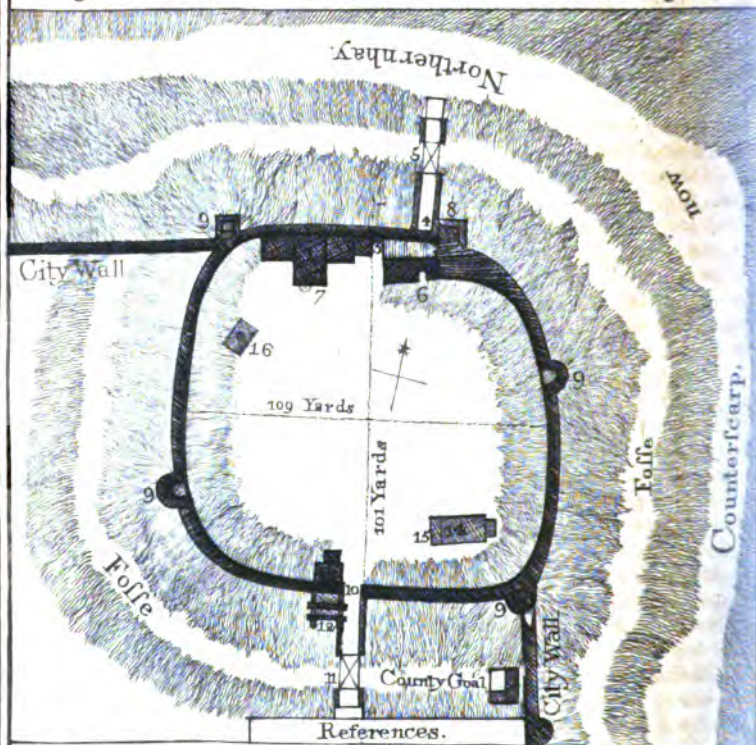
### *Rougemont Castle.*

The Castle. This ancient Castle is situated on the highest part of the hill, and at the Northern extremity of the City; it owes its origin to the *Saxons*, as appears evidently from the strong and stately gateway still remaining, (the original entrance from the City) and which is, perhaps, as venerable a vestige of *Saxon*

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# A PLAN OF ROUGEMONT CASTLE

as describ'd by IÆLAND, in the 16:<sup>th</sup> Century.



## References.

1. Sessions-house.
2. Donjon.
3. A cover'd Flight of Steps that led to the top of the Donjon.
4. Sally Port, with a cover'd way to the Drawbridge 5.
6. Subteraneous passage to ditto.
7. Guard-house.
8. An ancient Gateway wall-led up.
9. Towers or Bastions.
10. Entrance from the City flank'd by a cover'd way that led to the

- Drawbridge 11.
12. A machiolated Gateway, the original entrance, altered by the Norman Conqueror.
13. House of the Castellán.
14. Chapel, olim Collegiate, dedicated to the Virgin Mary.
15. Armoury.
16. A deep Well.
17. Tower on the City wall.

10 20 30 40 50  
Scale of Yards.

*Saxon* fortification as any now existent in this kingdom. It CHAP. VI. consisted of an inner and outer gate flanked by strong curtains supported by buttresses; on the top of the gate are Lunettes, and Machicolations for throwing down offensive things on the besiegers in case of an attack; and in the inner gate there are grooves for letting down a Portcullis. The whole of the gateway projected from the wall, and flanked the ditch: it is now used as a black-hole for offending soldiers, and within side is built a Guard-house and Store-rooms for the *East Devon Regiment of Militia*.

The area of the Castle, within the walls, is but small, and is of an oval form: at the upper end is a large, plain and convenient building, containing spacious Courts, for holding the Assizes, County Courts, and other public business of the County; a Chapel, rooms for the Judges, Grand-Jury, with suitable offices for the Sheriff, County Clerk of the Peace, &c. Opposite the Guard-house is a neat house for the Castellain, and on the banks within the walls are planted a number of Elms, and the area is neatly gravelled.

On the top of the ramparts is a pleasant walk, from which is a delightful prospect of the City, surrounding country, and part of the *British Channel*. Within the area of the Castle, was a small ancient Chapel, formerly collegiate and well endowed, which was taken down a few years since.

History is silent as to the time of the first erection of this fortress; but that it was standing before the *Norman* conquest is evident, from the Conqueror's altering its gates, in token (as related) of his victory, and granted it to *Baldwin de Brioniis*, one of his *Norman* followers; and about this period we may date the alteration of its name, to *Rougemont Castle*, which is clearly of *Norman* derivation, and signifies *Red Hill*.\*

From the Family of *de Brioniis*, it came by marriage to the *de Breweres*, one of whom founded and endowed a collegiate Church within the same, dedicated to the *Virgin Mary*, to which he annexed four Prebendaries, viz. *Loeghen* (near *Exeter*) with *Clisthays*; *Cutton*, with the tithing of *Hemington*, in the County of *Somerset*; *Carswell*, in the manor of *Kenn*; and *Ash-Clist*: the last of which was given to the Abbey of *Torr*, by *Robert de Courtenay*, *Viscount of Devon*.

It is on record, that in the reign of King *Stephen*, Anno 1140, *Baldwin de Riveriis* taking part with Queen *Maud*, fortified this Castle, and expended great sums of money on it, but that after a long and tedious siege, he was obliged to capitulate,

\* The *British* name of *Exeter*, *Cner-ruth*, signifies the same; which has caused some to conjecture, that the Castle retained its *British* name, till the time of the Conquest.

**CHAP. VI.** capitulate, and seek refuge in the *Isle of Wight*. From the *de Breweres* it came, by marriage to the *Courtenays*, Earls of *Devon*, many of whom resided in it with great state; and in the year 1216, and the eighteenth of his reign, King *John* sent his commission to *Robert de Courtenay* (who had then the custody of the Castle) to admit *William de Brewere* with his soldiers, into the said Castle, to assist him in the defence of it: and about the same time, ordered 30*l.* to be issued from his Treasury, to pay the soldiers in garrison there.

In the reign of King *Henry 3d*, 1217, the custody of this Castle, with the honours appertaining to it, were claimed by *Prince Henry*, eldest son of *Reginald, Earl of Cornwall*; but the King, by his Writ, confirmed the possession to *Robert de Courtenay*. Notwithstanding this, the King seized the Castle into his own hands, and appointed *Robert de Albemarle*, the governor of it: but in the month of May following, he granted it again to the said *Robert de Courtenay*, in whose possession it continued till the year 1232, when the King seized this and many other Castles, in order, as it is said, to deprive the Barons of their strong places of refuge: and thus the *Courtenays* were deprived of the custody of the Castle, after its having been in their and their ancestors possession nearly 200 years.

In 1247, *Richard, Earl of Cornwall*, (the King's brother,) held the custody of *Rougemont Castle*, which he fortified, and retired to for security, during the wars between the King and his Barons, and resided there for some time: it continued in the possession of the *Earls of Cornwall*, till the year 1336, the 10th year of King *Edward 3d*, who creating his Son *Edward*, *Prince of Wales*, and *Duke of Cornwall*, this Castle, with a small district adjoining, (formerly the Castle garden) now termed *Bradninch*, was annexed to the said *Dutchy*, and it hath ever since continued a parcel of it.

In the twenty-first year of *Richard 2d*, 1397, (the title of *Prince of Wales* lying dormant) the King created *John Holland* (*Earl of Huntingdon*) *Duke of Exeter*, and granted him the government of the Castle, which the Duke highly beautified, and built a stately palace in it for his own residence; but on the accession of King *Henry 4th*, who created his son *Henry*, *Duke of Cornwall*, it again reverted to that *Dutchy*, and continued to be a Royal Garrison down to the reign of *Edward 6th*; the Governors being appointed by the *Dukes of Cornwall*: for we find that during the rebellion of the commons of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, there were a party of soldiers in the Castle, who were not under the subjection of the Magistrates of the City.

During

During the unhappy dissensions between King *Charles* 1<sup>st</sup>, and the Parliament, it was then considered as a place of strength, and several pieces of cannon were mounted on its walls: but on its surrender to the Parliament forces, it was dismantled, by order of *Oliver Cromwell*, and all its Towers and battlements destroyed. †

There is not the least vestige of the ancient buildings remaining, except what has been already mentioned; but in the great alterations which have been made of late years, many relics of antiquity have been discovered, such as Roman and other Coins, pieces of Armour, Arrow-heads, broken Cannon, and human bones. In the old Armoury, at the end of the Chapel, was a large collection of ancient armour, consisting of Helmets, Morions for foot Soldiers, Back and Breast pieces, &c. which were either dispersed among the curious, or thrown by as old iron: the remainder is now lodged under the gallery, in the *Nisi Prius* Court.

Before I enter into the Parochial description, I shall give a brief account of the Cathedral, its principal ornaments and curiosities, and the monumental inscriptions not mentioned in the Ecclesiastical History; together with a summary view of other particulars worth describing.

### *The Cathedral Church of St. Peter.*

This Church was, according to *Leland*, dedicated originally Cathedral. to *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*, and this seems to be corroborated by the Armorial bearing of the See, being two Keys in Saltier, Or; the common emblem of the former, and a Sword in Pale, Argent, hilted, Or; the instrument of the martyrdom of the latter.

The principal entrance, from the West end presents a view scarcely to be equalled for its magnificence and grandeur, and which would be highly improved, were the Seats and Pews in the Nave removed. The just proportion and Symmetry of the whole building have a pleasing effect, whilst the spreading  
of

† It is worthy the trouble of a curious observer, to examine the Northern tower or Bastion of the Castle, (projecting into *Northernhay*) particularly the Pilasters, and mouldings round the base, with which it is adorned: it will be observed that the masonry is different, and far superior to any other part of the walls or Towers, and that it seems to be of more ancient date than the Saxon times, as well as of better work than is commonly found in their buildings; neither is there any kind of sculpture or armorial bearings to be seen in this, or any other part of the Towers or Walls. The Pilasters appear to be of the Tuscan order; a style of building unknown to, and consequently never used by our Saxon or Norman Ancestors.



**CHAP. VI.** of the groins, supporting the vaulted roof; the distant perspective of the Gothic screen upholding the majestic Organ, with the partial view of the Bishop's Throne, terminated by the Eastern window, fill the mind with a pleasing awe and reverence.

Its supposed anti-  
quity.

The origin of this sacred edifice is ascribed to King *Athelstan*, who on or near the scite of the Virgin Mary's Chapel, erected a House of Benedictine Monks; but this must have been destroyed in the total subversion of the City by *Sweyne the Dane*; and no part of the present Chapel, can from its style of Architecture, boast of a *Saxon* founder.

Isaac's  
error.

It may be probable, that the present building was begun soon after the removal of the Episcopal chair from *Crediton* to *Exeter*, by *Edward the Confessor*. Mr. Isaac therefore very erroneously asserts (and what has been echoed since, by every Historiographer of this Cathedral) that it was not the "*opus unius sæculi*," but took up 437 years in building.

The foundation of the present Cathedral may with great probability, be ascribed to *Bishop, William Warlewast*, who being a *Norman* by birth, might have a predilection for the architecture prevailing in his own country, and which had been introduced there near a century before, deriving its origin from the *Saracens* in *Spain*. This Prelate was installed the 4th of *Henry 1st*, 1104; and he soon after laid the foundation of the present choir, as well as those of the North and South Towers.

There can be but little doubt however, that the whole plan of the present edifice (exclusive of the two towers, and a portion of the South wall of the Nave, where a circular arched door-way leads to the Cloisters) originated from *Bishop Quivill*, who was consecrated to this See the 10th *Edward 1st*, 1282. This Prelate's taste was equal to his munificence; and to him may, not unjustly, be given the ascription of Patron and Founder of the present Church.

The grand design was continued by his successors in the Episcopal chair, and brought to a completion by *Bishop Grandison*, who, it is said, built the two western arches, the front with its most beautiful facade or screen, and finished the vaulting and roof of the Nave: therefore the whole of this august undertaking, from the commencement by *Bishop Quivill*, to its completion by *Bishop Grandison* could not exceed eighty years.

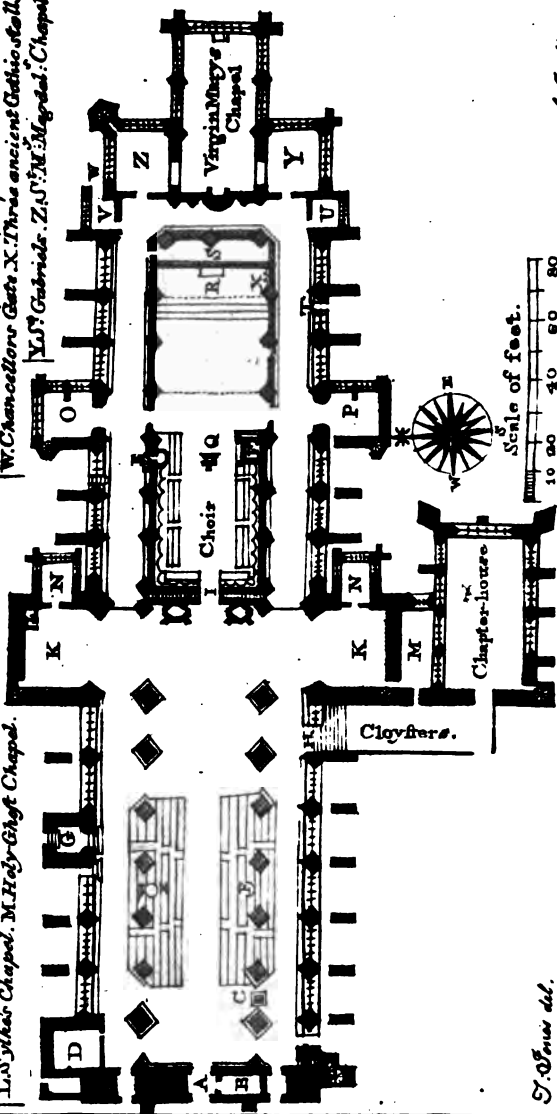
Dimensi-  
ons.

This Cathedral, which is smaller than most others in the Kingdom, measures in length, (including the walls) 408 feet; in breadth 76 feet, and the height to the vaulted roof, is 69 feet. The Towers, to the top of the battlements are 130 feet,  
and

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# ICHOGRAPHY of EXETER CATHEDRAL.

- A. Great West entrance.  
 B. Grandiorous Chapel. C. Font.  
 D. Confessory Court. E. F. Pulpits.  
 F. F. Bishop's throne. G. North porch.  
 H. South door. I. Organ loft. K. K. Towers.  
 L. North Chapel. M. Holy-Ghost Chapel.  
 N. N. Chapel. O. St. Andrew's. P. St. James's Chapel.  
 Q. Light door. R. High Altar. S. Sacristy.  
 T. Entrance into the Bishop's Palace.  
 U. Oldham's. V. Spokes Chapel.  
 W. Chancellor's Gate. X. Three ancient Catholic cells.  
 Y. St. Gabriel. Z. St. Michael's Chapel.



T. Jones del.

Ar. Jenkins sc.

and the pinnacles to the summit of the vanes 36 feet: the interior dimensions are as follow: the Virgin Mary's Chapel is in length 57 feet, and its breadth 24 feet: from this Chapel to the entrance of the choir 148 feet six inches; from thence to the West end 174 feet; so that the whole length within side is 379 feet six inches: the Choir, from the Altar to the Screen (which separates it from the body of the Church) is in length 123 feet, and in breadth 42 feet; and the transverse aisle, from the walls of the Towers measures 138 feet in length.

The West front is formed by an elegant facade or screen, divided into three parts by two projecting buttresses: in the centre part is the principal entrance into the Church, on the right hand of which is the Founder's (*Bishop Grandison's*) Chapel: in the other divisions are smaller entrances which differ much in their architecture and decorations; and if history had not informed us that the whole was the work of *Grandison*, it might naturally be concluded that they were erected at different periods of times. West front.

The principal part of this admirable structure, is composed of a Plinth, decorated with carved mouldings, on which rises a regular number of divisions, separated by small carved buttresses supported by demi-Angels: in each division are two rows of niches, and on the top are traced battlements, from which Angels appear to be issuing in different attitudes; in these niches are rows of Statues: those in the lower tier are in a sitting posture, most of them in armour with their legs crossed, probably erected in memory of the principal commanders in the crusades for the recovery of the Holy land, that on the right hand of the principal entrance, being evidently designed for *Godfrey de Boullouinge* the commander in chief: those on the front of the buttresses in the same tier excepted, which represent religious persons, and supposed to be the four primitive Fathers of the Roman Church, or rather the four primitive founders of Monastic indolence: three of these Statues are decapitated, but the fourth has a mitre on his head. Those in the upper story are in different kinds of robes, and represent the ancient Patriarchs† and Apostles; except those on the buttresses, which by their accompanying attributes, appear to be designed for the Four Evangelists: there are two in the middle, immediately over the principal entrance, one of which is in a sitting posture, and from his holding in his right hand a crosier, and in the left a book, and having the arms of *Bishop*

N n

*Leofricus*

† These Statues have labels flowing from their hands, on which, originally, were inscribed their names. The name *Noah*, was, a few years ago, plainly visible on that in the Northern return of the left buttress.

CHAP. VI. *Leofricus* on a shield directly beneath him, it may be justly supposed that it was designed for that Prelate. The adjoining niche is vacant, but from the arms of *Edward the Confessor* beneath, it is evident it contained the Statue of that Monarch.

On the front of the upper part of the buttresses, are two larger Statues, underneath which, on shields, are the arms of the aforesaid Monarch, and Prelate; from which it may be inferred, that they were also designed for those personages. Over the left entrance are four small niches, in three of which are Statues of three of the Cardinal virtues; the fourth being now vacant: the first has the scales, representing *Justice*; the second, *Fortitude* bearing a lance and shield; the third is in a religious dress, holding a heart in her hands, supposed to be designed to represent monastic discipline: each of these Statues have crowns on their heads, and under their feet are emblematical figures of their opposite vices.

In the spandrels of the arch of the principal entrance, are four Angels in a reclining posture; and on the sides of the architraves are four mutilated Statues of Royal personages, in a sitting posture: over the right hand entrance are two demi-Statues of Royal persons, and between them a Griffon; and on the return of the sides of the buttresses, are four other Royal personages. The whole number of Statues originally in this ancient and venerable screen, (exclusive of the Angels) are as follows: in the lower tier, 26; in the upper, 34; and two in the upper fronts of the buttresses; four small ones over the left entrance; and four small ones on the architrave of the principal entrance; in all, seventy. Many of the Statues, as well as other ornamented parts are greatly mutilated and decayed, a partial repair of which would very much disfigure the venerable beauty, and a rebuilding would be a work, perhaps, too costly for the present age.

Behind this screen rises the lofty and majestic front of a pyramidal form, in the upper angle of which, is a colossal Statue of *St. Peter*, and in the central part is the great West window, measuring 37 feet in height, and 27 in breadth. This window has been greatly noticed by the lovers of ancient architecture, for the beauty of its tracery: it was repaired and new glazed with painted glass, in the year 1766; and was the work of that ingenious artist, *Mr. Wm. Peckett*, of *York*.

The lower part is divided into nine compartments, seven of which are beautifully painted with whole lengths of *St. Peter*, the four *Evangelists*, *St. Paul*, and *St. Andrew*; the other two are enriched with mosaic paintings, and the armorial bearings of different *Baronets* in the Diocess; of *Drs. Lavington*, (late *Bishop* of this See) and *Littleton*, *Bishop* of *Carlisle*, (some time *Dean* of this Church.)

Over

Over the portrait of *St. Peter*, are two coats of the late *Dean Mills*; one impaled with those of the Deanry, the other with that belonging to the office of Precentor; and over the heads of the adjoining portraits, are those of the late *Chanter Snow*, and *Chancellor Nutcombe Quick*, impaled with those belonging to their stations in the Church: the arms over the four other portraits, are those of the *Barons, Edgecombe, Petre, Clifford, and Porteus*; and underneath the portrait of *St. Peter*, are the arms of the City of *Exeter*, with the Insignia of its privileges, the Cap of Maintenance, Sword, and Mace.

Over these compartments, are the arms of *Sir Richard Bampfylde, Bart.* and *John Parker, Esq.* Representatives in Parliament for the County of *Devon*, and *John Walter*, and *John Tuckfield, Esquires*, Representatives for the City of *Exeter*. The principal tracery over the Mullions, composes three pointed arches, and four circles; these are subdivided into compartments; in the central and largest of which, are the Royal arms, and around it are the arms of the *West Saxon* kingdom, *Edward the Confessor*, the *Prince of Wales*, the *Diocess*, and *Bishop Grandison*; together with the *Union Rose*, *Thistle*, *Fleur de lis*, and *Harp*. §

In the upper compartment of the circumscribing circle, are the arms of the *Archbishop of Canterbury*; and in the others, those of the *Dukes of Somerset, Beaufort, Bolton, and Bedford*; the *Earls of Godolphin, Granville, Orford, and Buckinghamshire*; *Viscounts Falmouth and Courtenay*, and *Bishop Keppel*. The smaller compartments of this noble Window are embellished with the different insignia of Royalty, and Ecclesiastical dignity; the emblems of the different nations composing the British empire; the several Orders of Knighthood; and on the extreme point of the arch, is the Holy Lamb. \* The two other Windows in the front, at the ends of the aisles, were new glazed at the same time, the colours beautifully variegated, representing marigolds and other flowers, which have a most pleasing effect. Other Windows.

The rest of the Windows are adorned with beautiful and varied tracery, greatly differing in design, as no two Windows

N n 2

§ From the tracery in this interior circle, resembling a diagram composed of three human hearts intersecting each other, it has been judged a designed representation of the Holy Trinity; and from this circumstance it has, among some people, received the name of, "the Trinity Window."

\* Underneath the City-arms is this inscription, *Will. Pecket, Pinxit et Finit*; the whole work does great honour to the merit of that ingenious artist; but it is to be feared that the colours are not of so durable a nature as those of the ancients: some of them, particularly the light blues, begin already to scale and decay.

**CHAP. VI.** dows on the same side of the building are alike, though they correspond in their opposites.

Eastern  
Window.

The great Eastern Window, over the High Altar, was repaired and beautified, by the bounty of *Henry Blackburn*, Canon of this Church, in the year 1390; when *Robert Lym*, of this City, Glazier, contracted to furnish the glass at twenty-pence per foot, and for the labour three shillings and fourpence per week for himself, and two shillings for his family, during the time he should be employed on the contract. This Window is still in good preservation, and has lately had some additions to the paintings: it contains several whole length portraits of *Abraham*, *Isaac*, *Jacob*, different Saints, and Royal personages; particularly those of *Edward the Confessor*, and his Queen *Editha*; also various armorial bearings of the *Plantagenet*, and *Courtenay* Families, with the different Bishops of this Diocess.

In the year 1768, this Window was repaired, and great additions made to the painted glass, viz. the Arms of the *West Saxon* kingdom, the *Archbishop of Canterbury*, *Bishop Keppel*, &c.

The whole of the Windows were originally ornamented with painted glass, as appears by their remains; the colours of which are finely preserved, notwithstanding the length of time since their erection; but, alas! those beautiful specimens of the skill and piety of our ancestors, experienced the fury of puritanic bigotry, in the Civil Wars, and were wantonly beat to pieces by the Soldiery: from the remains, many curious pieces have been preserved by the care of the Chapter, and are ingeniously arranged in the different Windows of the inner aisles, and other parts of the Church, which are worthy the attention of the curious.

Over each end of the transverse aisle, is erected a large and magnificent Tower, decorated with *Norman* arches, dentilled mouldings and other ornaments: each Tower has at its four corners, lofty pinnacles crowned with gilt vanes. † These Towers appear, from the style of the architecture, to have been designed by *Bishop Warlewast*, about the year 1107; but probably not finished, or built to their present height, during his time.

The South Tower, from two semicircular arches still perceivable

† On the North Tower was a lofty spire (in which was hung the Clock Bell) on the summit of which, was a gilt cock, an emblem of *St. Peter*: this spire was taken down about the year 1750, the bell hung lower down in the Tower, and the present vanes erected; but though this adds to the uniformity of the building, the lowering of the bell has greatly lessened the deep grandeur of its sound; nor is it heard at that distance it was before the alteration.

ceivable in the South wall, seems to have been raised on a prior structure; and although the erection of the North Tower is ascribed to *Bishop Peter Courtenay*, yet from the similarity of both Towers in regard to size and ornamental decorations, they appear to have been designed by the same architect, and that *Bishop Courtenay* only completed, or finished it to its present state, and added the Clock and Bell, from which he obtained the honour of being deemed its founder.

These Towers, according to the superstition of the times, were dedicated to their particular Saints: that on the South having *St. John*, and the North, *St. Paul*, for their Patrons.

According to the Fabric-rolls of the Cathedral, the building is constructed of Stones from various quarries, the walls being built of *Beer* stone, and the vaulted roof and groins, from the quarry at *Silverton*, as that stone was softer, and therefore easier to work: the clustered and other columns are of *Purbeck* marble, as appears from the following transcript from the said rolls, made by the late *Dean Littleton*.

“ On the day of the Sabbath next after the Feast of *St. Vincent*, A. D. 1332, *William Cannon*, of *Corfe* (in the Island of *Purbeck*) compounds with the Lords, the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*, on account of Marble, as well for himself as his Father, to the fabric of the Nave of the Church of *St. Peter* in *Exeter*; that is to say, concerning eleven pillars and half; for the great, the price of pillars 10*l.* 16*s.* making the sum of 124*l.* 4*s.* also a pair of pillars for the base and capitals, 15*l.* the price of every base with the capital and pillar, 5*s.* also for 29 pillars for the cloister; the price of the pillar 9*d.* in the whole, 140*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*” †

In the North tower is a Clock of a curious invention, for the age in which it was constructed; it points out the hours, days of the Month, and Moon's age: the latter is described by a globe, (one half of which is black) revolving on its axis, and which presents the size of that luminary: this Clock, together with the great Bell, is recorded to have been the gift of *Bishop Peter Courtenay*. §

The Bell, from its size, truly deserves the epithet of *Great*, as it weighs 12,500*lbs.* which is 2500*lb.* more than the weight of the boasted *Tom* of *Lincoln*. It has a sonorous and deep note, and is heard at a great distance: it was formerly rung

† From this account it appears that the Cloisters were originally supported by marble pillars, though at present there is not the smallest vestige of one remaining.

§ Some years since a Minute part and Dial were added to this Clock: the workmanship of the ingenious *Mr. William Howard*, Brass founder of this City.



**CHAP. VI.** rung by the great exertions of 24 men; it had double wheels and two ropes; but the wheels are now destroyed, and its only use is as a Clock bell, and to be tolled every night at the hour of eight: this is the remains of the *Norman tyrants' Curfew*; the Bell has obtained the name of the *Peter Bell*, from that of its generous and noble donor.

South  
Tower.

In the *South Tower* are eleven Bells, the largest that are rung in regular peal, in this kingdom: the *Tenor* is termed the *Grandison*; from its donor, the Bishop of that name: it weighs 7552lbs. which is 2000lbs. more than any other *tenor* in *England*. \*

Font.

In the *Nave*, or body of the Church, the principal things deserving notice are, the *Font*, a beautiful basin of white marble, embellished with Cherubims, supported by a black marble pedestal on a chequered pavement of black and white marble, and encompassed with iron pallisades. Great part of the *Nave* is occupied by rows of elevated wainscot seats; but they greatly diminish the grandeur of the building: on the North side is the *Pulpit*, which is a beautiful specimen of Joiner's work: on the pannels are carved in alto relievo, the Statues of the Four Evangelists: the angles are decorated with

Pulpit.

*Whitaker's  
History of  
Manchester.*

\* The *Peter Bell*, together with the three large ones, viz *Grandison*, *Stafford*, and *Cobthorn* in the South tower, being cracked, were new cast, in the year 1675. The *Grandison*; and 8th Bell (named the great nine o'Clock bell) were also recast in the year 1729. According to the *Rev. Mr Whitaker*, Bells were used by the *Romans* to signify the times of bathing, and therefore naturally applied by the Christians of *Italy*, to denote the hours of devotion, and to summon the people to Church. They were so applied, before the conclusion of the seventh century, in the monastic societies of *Northumberland*; and thence they were used from the first erection of Parish Churches among us. Those of *France*, and *England*, appear to have been furnished with several Bells. The second ex-cerption of King *Egbert*, about the year 750, which is adopted in a *French capitulary* of 801, commands every Priest, at the proper hours to sound the Bells of his Church, and then to go through the sacred offices of God. In *France*, the bells were, at times composed of iron; but in *England* they were frequently made of brass; and even as early as the middle of the tenth Century, there were many cast of a large size, and deep note. Two were given by *Eglebrich*, to his own Abbey of *Groyland*, in the reign of *Edward the Elder*; and another, much larger, by his immediate successor, *Turketul*: several were presented by *Dunstan*, to the monastery of *Malmesbury*, in the preceding reign of *Edgar*. The number of bells in every Church gave occasion to that curious and singular piece of architecture, in the *Campanile*, or *Bell-Tower*; an addition which is more susceptible of the grander beauties of architecture than any other part of the edifice, and is therefore, generally, the principal rudiments of it: it was the constant appendage to every parish Church of the *Saxons*, and is actually mentioned as such, in the laws of *Athelstan*: the custom of ringing regular peals, which now are peculiar to *England*, commenced in the time of the *Saxons*, and was common before the Conquest.

with festoons of fruit and flowers, and on the top of the baldaquin is the statue of an Angel blowing a trumpet finely gilt, the whole being the workmanship of the celebrated *Gibbons*.

Opposite the Pulpit is an elevated seat for the *Bishop*, enriched with carving, and below this seat is another for the Mayor: this part of the Church is used for morning service, and occasionally for sermons in the forenoon on Sabbath and Festival days.

Almost over the Pulpit is a deep gallery (designed as supposed, for concealing a band of musicians on particular occasions) the front of which is decorated with Angels playing on various instruments of music; and is worthy the examination of the curious in ancient music.

Over the North porch, is a convenient dwelling-house for the bell-toller; the front is embellished with three pyramidal compartments of tracery work, in the centres of which are niches, once occupied by statues.

The beautiful Gothic screen which divides the Nave from the choir, was erected in the reign of King *James 1st*: it is supported by grey marble pillars: the pediment, which is highly enriched with carving, is divided into thirteen compartments, in which are paintings of different passages of scripture history, from the creation, to the descent of the Holy Ghost: on the summit of the Cornice is a row of carved shields, on which are depicted the armorial bearings, and distinctive badges of the different nations composing the *British* empire. This elegant screen supports the Organ, which, for size, far surpasses any instrument of the kind in *Europe*; the largest pipes being 15 inches in diameter, which is two inches more than the much celebrated one at *Ulm* in *Bavaria*: beneath this Organ is a smaller one, which fronts the choir; and on each of the adjoining groins of the choir, are other assemblages of large pipes, the conductors of which are so ingeniously contrived, that the whole may be played upon by a single person at one time: the exterior pipes are gilt, and the workmanship excellent: in short, for majestic stateliness and beauty, it is not excelled, if equalled, in *England*. By an inscription it appears it was made by *John Loosemore*, in the year 1666: the whole has been lately thoroughly repaired and the conductors cleared from their filth, by *Mr. Micheau*, Organ-builder of this City. †

Gothic  
Screen.

Organ.

The

† The Organ which formerly occupied the place of this, was probably destroyed in the grand rebellion; for it cannot be supposed that so noted a Cathedral as this was without one, as we find them very early introduced into the *British* and *Saxon* Churches. “After the conversion of the *Northumbrians*, we find an instrument of that name, familiarly used in

## CHAP. VI.

Choir.

The stalls in the choir are neatly wainscoted and enriched with carved mouldings in antique taste, corresponding to the building. The choir is neatly paved with Portland stones in form of a Rhombus, having at each angle a small square of black marble. Near the centre, on a brass pedestal in the form of a tripod, enriched with couchant lions, is a brazen eagle with expanded wings, supporting the Lesson desk; and from the roof of the choir hang two large and superb brass Chandeliers.

Bishop's throne.

On the South side of the Choir is the *Bishop's* throne elevated high above the floor, and ascended by five steps; its area squares several feet, and in the centre is the Episcopal chair of crimson velvet, adorned with gold fringe; the back of the throne is hung with crimson velvet, and the cushion is of the same materials, with gold fringe and tassels: the curtains are crimson moreen; the canopy is composed of pointed arches intersecting each other, and from the angles project cherubs, supporting chalices, patens and other sacred vessels; from the canopy rises a lofty pile of gothic tracery, of a pyramidal form, ending in different spires, and embellished with carvings, mouldings, &c. The whole is greatly admired by connoisseurs in ancient architecture, being esteemed the grandest Episcopal Throne in *Britain*. It was originally beautifully painted, and partly gilt: it was erected by *Bishop Booth*, about the year 1470.

Choir Pulpit.

Opposite the throne is a very handsome Pulpit, which was erected in the year 1560; but it has had many ornamental additions of late years, in which great care has been taken not to blend modern ornaments with the ancient, the Chapter very judiciously restricting themselves to the original design.

High Altar.

The area below the altar is divided from the Choir, by iron rails with brass pyramidal heads. From this platform there is an ascent of three steps, of black and white marble, to the floor of the altar, which is paved in the same manner, and separated from the steps by another row of balustrades.

The

“ the services of the North, even as early as 660. But the grand combination of Instruments which we now denominate an Organ, was unknown in *Europe* at that period; it was the happy production of an Eastern genius; and the first that ever appeared in the West of Europe, was sent by *Constantine*, the *Grecian* Emperor, to *Pepin*, King of *France*, in 756. The artists of the West availed themselves of the present, and Organs were constructed on the continent, and in this Island, and erected in some of our Cathedrals before the middle of the 10th century. In the reign of *Edgar*, *Archbishop Dunstan* presented one to the Church of *Malmesbury*, in which instrument (according to the historical description) the pipes were formed in musical proportions of brass, and the air was impelled through them, by a pair of bellows.”

The furniture of the altar is sublimely grand, consisting of silver, richly gilt; and the whole appearance is awfully striking, and raises a holy contemplation on the sacred duties there performed. The Altar-piece represents a perspective view of the inside of another Church, with side aisles, curiously ornamented in the gothic style, and in the centre are the portraits of *Moses* and *Aaron* supporting the Decalogue: the whole of the painting is well performed; and, excepting the damage it received from the *Saints-militant* in the grand rebellion,† well preserved. It appears by a date still remaining, that it was painted in the year 1639.

On the South side of the Altar are three arched seats divided by brass pillars which support a curious pile of ancient architecture, which, for the lightness of structure, elegance of workmanship, and neatness of carving, is much admired. It displays the fine taste of ornamental work in the time of *Edward III.*

Behind the High Altar is the ancient sacristy, now unfurnished of its copes, vestments and other *Romish* paraphernalia.

On the eastern part of the whole building is the Chapel of the *Virgin Mary*, which is ascended by steps, and it is enclosed from the upper transverse aisle by a fair screen, in which are folding doors; this screen, owing to the good taste of the present Bishop, Dean and Chapter, has been lately restored; and a despicable one that covered it, taken down. On the architrave of the old screen was the following inscription:

*Hanc Capellam Beatæ Mariæ Virginis ab Athelstano Rege olim fundatam, in Bibliothecam propriis sumptibus convertit Robertus Vilvaine, M. D. Anno Domini, MDCLVII.*

It is evident that this Chapel is not of *Saxon* construction; it has been supposed to be on\* the site of the whole Church

O o

belonging

† Those *anti-christian reformers* wantonly fired at the heads of the portraits, and the marks of the bullets are still visible.

§ For what purpose, or at what time these seats were erected, is not now known. The accounts given by some of our historians, that they were purposely built for the instalment of *Leofricus*, the first *Bishop of Exeter*, must be erroneous, if no part of the present choir was then erected.

\* “Mr. William Davey, of Exeter, who has inspected the present building with minute and discriminating attention, contends, that the ancient Cathedral did not occupy the site of St. Mary’s Chapel, but was on part of the same ground as the present choir, having its high altar where it still remains. The sanctuary was the most sacred spot; and it is extremely probable, that the religious architects of those times would rather extend their building in any direction, than remove the site of the host. Besides, Hokes only compares the size

†

“ of

CHAP. VI. belonging to the house of the *Benedictine Monks*, founded by *Athelstan*, Anno 932. It was converted into a Library, by the munificence of Doctor *Rt. Vilvaine*, a native of this City. It has been augmented by succeeding benefactors, and particularly by the late *Doctor Glass*, of this City, who bequeathed the whole of his extensive and very valuable Library.

The annexed plan will inform the reader of the number of Chapels attached to this Church: none of which merit a particular description, saving the monuments within them, unless it be that which is dedicated to *St. James*: in this is a building (which *Mr. Carter* calls a mural monument,) of very curious workmanship.

In 1796, on opening a grave for *Bishop Buller*, in the south aisle, a human skeleton was discovered, the bones of which were united by wires, and on the forepart of the skull was engraved this inscription; *Opera & Studio Joh. Ritzzen et Godf. Schloeri Germanorum, 1632. Ætat 22 ½ Fui, eris.*

To give a minute detail of every article worthy notice in this ancient and venerable edifice would require a volume of itself; therefore let it suffice, only to say, that by the great care and attention of the late and present Bishop, Dean and Chapter, the interior parts of the Church are kept cleaner, and in better repair, than most other Cathedrals in *England*; nor are the outer parts neglected, as large sums have been expended in new covering with lead most parts of its extensive roofing, repairing the turrets, new glazing the windows, with many other necessary repairs, and particularly in the year 1803, when the inside has been thoroughly cleansed, coloured and painted, at a very great expence; but much is yet required, which time and former neglect have occasioned. The west front is very much out of repair, as are also many of the turrets: it is therefore hoped, that the laudable example of the present Dean and Chapter, will stimulate their successors to proceed on so necessary a work.

The ancient constitution of this Cathedral, was a Dean and twenty-four Prebendaries; the Dean always included in that number. For some centuries past, eight of these Prebendaries have, with the Dean, been called to residence, from whence they take the names of *Canons Residentiary*.†

These

“of the ancient Cathedral to the Lady Chapel.” *Beauties of England and Wales*, vol. iv. page 56.—Mr. Davey furnished the compilers of that work with a considerable part of their history of this Cathedral, from which the author hereof has taken extract.

† According to the first establishment of the Chapter of this Cathedral, by *Bishop Brewer*, about the year 1236, no mention is made of Canons exclusively; the original institution is thus worded, “*Viginti et quatuor Canones, sive Prebendarii.*”—Or twenty-four Canons or Prebendaries; no distinction being made between them.

These constitute the Chapter, and have the government of the Cathedral Church, and its appendages and peculiars. Vacancies are filled up, by election by the Chapter, from the rest of the Prebendaries. CHAP. VI.

The Deanry, Precentorship, Chancellorship and Treasurership are the four greater internal Dignities.

The four Archdeacons, and Sub-Deanry are also called internal Dignities.

The great Chapter, which is composed of the whole body, viz. the Dean and 23 Prebendaries, is never called together but for the election of a Bishop, Dean, or Convocation Clerk. There is also a Sub-Chanter and a Sub-Treasurer.

The Custos and College of Vicars consist of four; the Lay-Vicars are eight. These were a collegiate body corporate till the year 1613, when the Lay-Vicars were disunited, by royal mandate, from the College of Vicars, and their lands wholly vested with the Priest-Vicars. Still, however, they retain the right of voting at the election of a Custos, or in matters relating to the tythes of Woodbury, of which they have a moiety; the whole are subject to the Bishop's visitation. They have their own Hall, in which, according to their original institution, they formerly lived at Commons; but now they have convenient dwellings in the College, which qualify them to vote for members of parliament for the City, as do the lands in Woodbury, the College of Vicars, for those of the County.

There are five singing men, termed Secondaries, (who have each a dwelling-house in the Cloisters,) and ten singing boys: these, with the Vicars, form the choir of vocal music. To these may be added, an Organist, two Vergers, Bell-toller, and a Beadle. There is likewise an establishment for two Morning Lecturers, one every Tuesday, and the other every Friday. Divine Service is performed three times every day.

We shall now proceed to take a cursory view of the ancient and modern monuments most worthy of attention, which have not been noticed in the Ecclesiastical history; and shall begin with those in the body of the Church.

Nearly opposite to the South door, leading to the Cloisters, is a very ancient table monument, (much mutilated) to the memory of *Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon*, and his *Countess Margaret*, Daughter of *Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford* and *Essex*, and Lord High Constable of *England*. This *Earl Hugh* died at *Tiverton*, in the year 1377. His Lady survived him fifteen years, dying on the 28th January, 1392; and according to her last Will, was interred in this Cathedral, by the side of her husband.

††

O o 2

Sir

## CHAP. VI.

Sir Peter  
Courtenay.

*Sir Philip Courtenay*, of *Powderham*, the direct ancestor of the present noble *Lord, William Viscount Courtenay*, was the fifth Son of this illustrious couple. On the covering stone of the monument, lie the mutilated statues of the *Earl and Countess*, dressed in their robes of state, formerly painted and gilt; but the inscriptions (if there were any) are quite lost.

Adjoining to this tomb is a large grave stone, inlaid with brass ornaments, within which is the portrait of an armed Knight, as large as life, inlaid with the same metal: this stone covers the remains of *Sir Peter Courtenay*, Knight, seventh and youngest son of the aforesaid *Earl Hugh* and his *Countess Margaret*.

*Sir Peter* was greatly esteemed for his valour in the *French* wars, during the reigns of *King Edward III.* and *Richard II.* and was made Governor of the important fortress of *Calais*, and *Lord Chamberlain of England*. He died unmarried, in the year 1409: his Epitaph, mentioned by *Prince* and other authors, is now mostly obliterated, but the following copy is preserved:

*Devoniæ natus, comes, Petrusque vocatus,  
Regis cognatus, camerarius intitulatus:  
Ecclesiæ gratus, capitaneus ense probatus,  
Vitæ privatus, fuit hinc super astra relatus,  
Et qua sublatus, de mundo transit amatus,  
Cælo confirmatus maneat sine fine beatus.*

And which is thus translated:

*The Earl of Devonshire's son, Peter by name,  
Kin to the King, Lord Chamberlain of fame,  
Captain of Calais, for arms well approved,  
Who dying, was above the stars removed;  
And well beloved went from the world away,  
To lead a blessed life in Heaven for aye!*

At the head of this, is another brass plate, to the memory of *Mrs. Anna Maria Courtenay*, who was interred under the same stone.†

William  
Sylke.

Under the North tower, is a small inclosed Chapel, (open at top,) in which is interred the body of *William Sylke*, sometime *Sub-Chanter* of this Church.

This Chapel was originally embellished with fine carvings of Romish saints, and pieces of Scripture history; and under the front arch, is the effigy of a human skeleton, lying at full length, on a winding-sheet, and over the arch, this inscription is still legible: *Sum quod eris, fueramque quod es, pro me precor ora.*—*William Sylke*. This chapel and monument are now greatly decayed, and in a very ruinous state.

† On opening the grave for the interment of this Lady, the body of *Sir Peter* was discovered in good preservation, embalmed, and wrapped up in a Bullock's hide: this account the Author received from several credible eye-witnesses.

Just at the angle of the North aisle, is a monument with a long latin inscription, signifying that *Captain Benjamin Dollen* (to whose memory it is erected) died in this City, on his journey from *Bristol* to *Plymouth*, and was interred just under.

CHAP. VI.

Captain  
Dollen.

On each side of the principal entrance is a mural monument, that on the North, consists of black and white marble, erected to the memory of *Mr. Hereford*, of the County of *Northumberland*, and his wife. The other is of statuary marble—

*Sacred to the memory of Mary Irvine, Widow of Lieut. Col. Irvine, who died 20th December, 1799, aged 24 years.*

Underneath is the following inscription :

*Tho' sacred Friendship deems thy fate severe,  
And fond affection drops a silent tear;  
Though Childless now desponding parents sigh  
Pour the sad Complaint, and turn the streaming eye  
To thy cold grave—yet o'er each aching breast,  
Meek resignation breathes the balm of rest;  
Religion whispers peace amidst the gloom,  
While pale affliction, musing o'er the tomb,  
Submits, and lowly bends to Heav'n's high will;  
Hush'd ev'ry Complaint, and ev'ry murmur still,  
Though all lament thy blooming graces fled,  
And weep for beauty mould'ring with the dead.  
Thy virtues still the kindred wish shall raise  
To meet with thee thy God, and hymn his praise.*

There are several other small mural monuments, in the Nave but they do not merit a particular description.

In the inner North aisle, just within the entrance, and against the wall of the choir, is a neat monument of variegated marble, the workmanship of the celebrated *P. Scheemakers*; on which is the following Inscription.

Canon  
Grant.

*Juxta S. E.*

*Joannis Grant S. T. P.*

*Ecclesiæ divi Dunstani in Occidente per annos LIX  
Vicarius, Cathred. Roffensis Ann. XLIV Præbend.  
Kingsdown id Com. Cant. Ann. XXVI Rector.*

*Quot Tituli totidem numerantur meritorum præconia, totidem  
Extant Virtutum Ecclesiasticarum Testimonia, Eminebat  
quippe in eo singularis Sanctimonia, Eruditio, Integritas, & in  
difficilinis Temporibus spectata Fortitudo, infame istud Regis Jacobi  
Edicta oppugnare ausa et contemnere : ad extremum usq.  
Anglicanæ vindex Ecclesiæ : satius mala pati quam facere.  
In Consuetudine privata se facilem, & apertum præstabat innocue  
facetum, et cum dignitate quadam urbanum.*

*Et*



CHAP. VI.

*Et virtutibus quidem tantis gratiam pretiumq: addiit ipse  
Longævitæ. Carus adeo omnibus, suisq: amabilis viris ut etiam  
Nonagenarius morte immatura præreptus videretur.  
Duas duxit uxores; secundis nuptiis filiam Duncombi  
Colchester Militis, præclari illius Joannis Maynardi  
Militis neptem, ex qua Prolem a se progenitam vidit; Liberumq:  
Liberos. Mortuus est VI id Quintilis A. D. CIOIOCCXXXVI.*

*Juxta etiam placide requiescit*

*Elizabetha, Joannis Grant, prædicti Joannis Grant  
Filii, Archidiaconi Barum, Eccles. hujus Canonici Uxor.*

*Dom: Dom: Stephani Exon. Episc. per Luciam Uxorem.*

*Feminam Lectissimam, Filia minime indigna Paternarum æmula  
Virtutum, omnibusq. quæ aut beatissimo Conjugi placere  
poterant, aut quæ talium parentum Filium decebant, plene  
ornata. Per Decennium & amplius Comes fidissima,  
Magnæ Particeps & Auctrix Felicitatis;*

*Duobus Partibus Maritum felicem, at tertio cheu!*

*infelicem fecit Puerperio una-cum Infantulo extincta;*

*Parentibus, Liberis, Amicis, sed maxime Marito amantissimo  
triste sui Desiderium reliquit, Animam efflans XVI K. Mart.*

Major  
Drewe.

Adjoining the door of the Canon's vestry is a small marble monument to the memory of *Edward Drewe, Esq.* § with this modest inscription on a plain marble tablet.

*To the Memory of Edward Drewe, Esq. only Son of Edward Drewe, Barrister, who lived respected, and died lamented in the 43d year of his age, and whose remains are interred near this place. Also to the memory of his said Father, who lies beneath. And of Dorothea Juliana, his beloved Mother, buried in St. Martin's Church, in this City. This marble was erected as a lasting testimony of regard and affection to a kind Brother, and tender Parents, by Dorothea Juliana, Wife of Arthur Kelly, of Kelly, Esq.*

In a recess in the Wall, and near this monument, is an exquisite piece of sculpture, representing a human anatomy laying at full length on its winding sheet, the flesh entirely wasted, and nothing but the sinews and bones left under the shrunk

§ This Gentleman was a native of this City: he very early expressed an inclination for the army, and on the breaking out of the *American* war, procured a Commission in the 35th Regiment of Foot, and went with it to *America*, where he gave such proofs of his military skill and bravery, and particularly at the battle of *Charles-town*, (where he was desperately wounded,) that he was deservedly advanced to the rank of Major in the said Regiment: but having afterwards some difference with his Colonel (*Cockburn*, who basely betrayed his trust, by surrendering the island of *St. Eustatia* to the *French*) he gave up his Commission, and returned to *England*; but he never after enjoyed himself, and fell a sacrifice, in the flower of his age, to the villainous aspersions of his enemies.

shrunk skin. This memento of the instability of human grandeur, though somewhat defaced, is worthy of a curious inspection: over the arch is this inscription. \*

Ista figura docet? nos omnes premeditari  
qualiter ipsa nocet? mors quando venit  
dominari.

A little beyond this (in another recess) is an ancient Altar tomb, decorated with rams' faces, and other ornaments, in a wretched taste, which clearly demonstrate the low state of the Arts about the middle of the 16th century. On the cover-stone is this inscription.

Here lyeth master Anthony Harvey, Esqr.  
who died the xxiii d<sup>y</sup>e of Maye a<sup>o</sup> dmi.  
1564.

Near this, and opposite to *Bishop Stapleton's*, is the Statue of an armed Knight, laying at full length, with his legs crossed, to denote his having been on a crusade to the Holy land: on the Western side of the arch, is the Statue of a man in an erect posture, and on the opposite side, are the head and foreparts of a horse, held by a man, projecting from the wall: there is neither armorial bearing, or any inscription remaining, and the whole is greatly defaced. †

Sir Richard  
Stapleton.

Almost opposite to this, is a monument on which is represented the statue of an armed Knight in a kneeling posture before an altar, and on a tablet round the figure, are sixteen escutcheons, charged each with the arms of the *Carews* impaled with other different coats, alluding to the intermarriages of that family, from which the person was descended, (not from his having married so many wives, as it is vulgarly represented) over the cornice is a large shield, bearing the arms

Sir Peter  
Carew.

\* There is no other inscription, or armorial bearing, to denote to whose memory this Cenotaph was erected, except the arms of the Diocess: but the *Vergers* inform (falsely) all visitors, that it was erected for *Bishop Lacy*, to ridicule his attempt to fast during the forty days of Lent. Human nature could not sustain this rigorous penance above thirty days; when he died, and thus fell a victim to his folly: but there appears to be a great mistake in this traditionary legend, as *Bishop Lacy* was interred on the other side of the aisle, under the wall of the Choir, where his plain altar tomb still remains in situ.

† According to tradition, this monument was erected to the memory of *Sir Richard Stapleton* (brother to the *Bishop*) who was also murdered by the *Londoners*, at *Cripplegate* (vid. *Speed*) as he endeavoured to enter the City of *London*, to the succour of his brother: his horse took fright at some cripples assembled at the gate, and this occasioned his being thrown to the ground, when he fell an easy prey to the incensed mob. The figures placed on each side of the tomb, seem to be allusive to this circumstance.

**CHAP. VI.** arms of the *Carews*, quartered with several other coats; the inscription is now so much defaced as to be totally illegible: it was erected to the memory of *Sir Peter Carew*, of *Haccomb*, Knight.

Below this, against the wall of the Choir, is a plain table monument, the pediment supported by two pillars, and on the tablet is this inscription in gilt letters:

*Hic situs est, Robertus Hall, Josephi Cl:*

*Epi: filius primogenitus.*

*S. S. Theologiæ Doctor facundus:*

*Hujus Ecclesiæ, Vivus Thesaurus*

*Mortuus Thesaurus. Vivus Mortuus*

*Residentarius. Obiit 29 die Maii 1667. Ætatis Sux 61.*

There is a small plain marble tablet in the choir-wall, on which is the following inscription:

*Near this Stone is interred the body of Miss Henrietta Wilhelmina Wyander Piers, who departed this Life the 7th day of December, 1764, aged 22 years, Sister to Sir William Pigott Piers, Bart. of Iristenaugh, in the County of Westmeath, in Ireland.*

Sir George  
Speke.

At the upper end of this aisle, in a recess in the wall, (in the small chapel, through which is the passage that leads to the Chancellor's House) lays the statue of an armed Knight; and over it are several shields bearing the device of the *Spekes*; there is no inscription remaining on the tomb, but from a stone underneath, it may be supposed that it was erected to the memory of *Sir George Speke* of *White Lackington*, in the county of *Somerset*, maternal ancestor of the present *Lord North*, *Earl of Guildford*.

Judge  
Doderidge.

In the cross aisle, behind the altar, lie interred the bodies of *Sir John Doderidge*, Knight, (one of the Judges in the Court of King's-Bench; and of his Lady, daughter of *Sir Amias Bampfylde* of *Poltimore*.) The stones which covered their remains have been removed, and others put in their place: but on the North side of the *Virgin Mary's Chapel*, two separate monuments are erected to their memory; on these their statues are laid at full length. That of the Judge is clothed in Scarlet robes, with a Court-roll in his hand, and has been finely gilt: over the statue is an escutcheon of his Arms, impaled with that of *Bampfylde*; the Epitaph is as follows:

*Learning adieu! for Doderidge is gone  
To fix his Earthly, to a Heavenly throne;  
Rich Urn of Learned Dust, scarce can be found  
More worth inshrined in six foot of ground.  
NUnC obiit Do Derig Us JUDEX.*

A:

At the foot of the Judge's statue, lies that of his Lady, CHAP. VI.  
 dressed in the fashion of the times she lived in; this has also  
 been painted. On a marble stone is this inscription:

*Hic jacet Domina Dorothea Uxor Johannis Doderidge Militis, Lady  
 Unius Justiciariorum Domini Regis Ad Placita coram Rege Doderidge.  
 tenenda assignati, Et filia Amisii Bampfilde Militis, quæ obiit  
 Primo Martii, Anno Domini, 1614.*

On the left side of the entrance into this Chapel, fixed against the wall, is a small monument to the memory of Dr. Vilvaine.  
*Vilvaine*: (the first and greatest benefactor to the Library) on it is the following inscription:

*In Memoriam Robert Vilvaine Medicinæ Doctoris, Hac olim  
 Civitate nati atq; de eadem optime meriti, qui obiit 21 Februarii,  
 1662, Ætatis Suae 87.*

Corresponding to this, on the other side of the entrance, is a much larger monument, finely gilt, and enriched with scrolls, erected to the memory of *James Raillard, Esq.* a native of *Switzerland*, and an eminent merchant of this City: it has a Latin, and Greek inscription. He died 9th October, 1692.

The opposite wall of this aisle is filled entirely with modern monuments. The first (opposite to the last described) consists of a lofty pyramid of variegated marble, from which projects a white marble sarcophagus, and over it is a medallion of a female head, weeping; and on a white marble tablet beneath, is the following inscription:

*In Memory of Robert Harvey, Esq. late of the Island of Grenada: whose remains were interred in a vault near this place. He departed this life, the 29th July, 1791; in the 59th year of his age.* Robert Harvey, Esq.

Next to this is a monument, the back of which is of variegated marble, on a white marble pyramid, are inscribed the following words:

*In Memory of George Baker, Archdeacon of Totnes, and Canon of this Church; who died 28th January, 1772, aged 85. And of Sarah his Daughter, Wife of the Rev. William Hatherly; who died 4th April, 1760, aged 30. And were both buried near this place. And of Mary, Wife of the above named George Baker, and Daughter of the Right Reverend Stephen Weston, S. T. P. formerly Bishop of this Diocess, who died 3d March, 1777, aged 76. And of Mary Baker, Daughter of the above named George Baker, who died 16th June, 1768, aged 73.* Canon Baker, &c.

Adjoining is a neat monument of black and white variegated marble, containing the following elegant Latin Epitaph:

*Ad unum suggesti gradum situs est, Philippus Barton, S. T. B.* Sub-Dean Barton.  
 P p Hujus

**CHAP. VI.** *Hujus Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Canonicus Residentiarius et Sub-decanus, necnon Ecclesiæ, Parochialis de Buriton, in Comitatu Huntoniæ, per annos quadraginta quatuor Rector, natus in agro Vigorniensi, In Schola Wintoniensi alumnus dein, Coll. Novi, apud Oxoniensis.—socius floruit.—Orator vere Christianus,—cui, concionibus dum traherentur quotquot inter fuerint erum vim senserunt fructuum et nitorum; eximia Doctus sua tamen contempler famam, utpote præcipue Prætor exemplum modestus, quem omni virtute officioque ornatissimum præter facilem morum suavitatem consuetudinem juveniessimam simul ac eruditus simant ingenium omnium capax et limatum, pietatem non simulatam, quicumque noverint suspexerunt coluerunt.—mensis Junii die vicesimo quarto, ætatem agens septuagesimum octavum MDCCXCVI.—Vitæ futuræ intentus lubens fato cessit.—fratri bene merenti-sepulchrale hoc marmor.—marens Maria Batchellor poni curavit.*

The next monument is erected to the memory of *Bishop Buller*; which has already been described in the Ecclesiastical history.

Close to this is one of variegated marble neatly executed, on which is the following:

*Sacred to the Memory of Susanna, Wife of Joseph Bealy, M. D. who died 21st April, 1798, aged 22 years. The amiable qualities of her heart, and an excellent and cultivated understanding, ensured in an extraordinary degree the esteem and admiration of all who knew her. This monument is erected as a tribute to her merits, and as the last testimony of the affection of her disconsolate relatives: also in the same grave lieth her only child, Joseph Pool Bealy, who died 16th September, 1798, aged eighteen months: also the remains of Ann Susanna Baker, Mother of the above S. Bealy, ob. 4th March, 1800, Ætat. 42.*

The last in this row, is a beautiful monument of Statuary marble; the sculpture (which is finely executed) consists of an altar, on which is a female figure in a disconsolate posture, leaning with her left hand on an Urn, and holding in her right a burning torch reversed: underneath, on a marble tablet is the following inscription:

Mrs. Rachel O'Brien.

*Sacred to the Memory of Rachel Charlotte O'Brien, Wife of Captain E. J. O'Brien, of his Majesty's twenty-fourth Regiment and daughter of Joseph Frobisher, Esq. of Montreal in Canada. Her death was occasioned by her clothes catching fire: seeing the flames communicating to her infant, all regard to her own safety, was lost in the more powerful consideration of saving her child, and rushing out of the room, she preserved its life at the sacrifice of her own. She expired on the 13th December, A. D. 1800, in the 19th year of her age.*

Underneath

Underneath this, on a white marble tablet representing a CHAP. VI.  
piece of Drapery, are the following lines:

*If sense, good humour, and a taste refined,  
With all that ever graced a female mind;  
If the fond mother, and the faithful wife,  
The purest, happiest characters in life,  
If these when summon'd to an early tomb,  
Cloth'd in the pride of youth, and beauty's bloom,  
May claim one tender sympathizing sigh,  
Or draw a tear from pity's melting eye,  
Here pause—and be the grateful tribute paid,  
In sad remembrance to O'Brien's shade.*

These five monuments were executed by Mr. John Kendal,  
Statuary, of this City.

At the upper end of the South aisle (almost opposite to  
Bishop Oldham's, already described) is a stately monument to  
the memory of Treasurer Hall. It is crowned with a lofty  
carved pediment, supported by two Corinthian columns,  
their bases and capitals gilt; and on the inflexed curve of the  
pediment is a large escutcheon, on which are his arms, im-  
paled with those of his wife; on each side of the shield is an  
Angel in a sitting posture, sounding a trumpet; the base is  
supported by carved brackets, between which, on another  
escutcheon are the arms of Hall, impaled with two other  
coats, over which (by way of Crest) is the os-frontis of a hu-  
man skull, encircled round the temples with gilt laurel, and  
large extended wings resembling those of a Bat: on each side  
of the brackets are other skulls. In the centre of the monu-  
ment is a large oval black marble tablet, enriched with a  
carved border: the whole of the carving is elegantly executed  
(particularly the skulls) and finely painted and gilt: on the  
tablet is this inscription:

Treasurer  
Hall.

M. S.

NICOLAI HALL, S. T. P.

*Qui hujus Ecclesie Thesaurarius, Farringtoniensis Rector  
Utriusque nuper ornamentum, nunc Lactus et Desiderium,  
Privata omnia sacrique muneris officia egregie explendo  
Sui ordinis nemo Laudem ampliorem meruit pauci parem,*

*Maritus et Pater fuit suorum amantissimus,*

*Et ab illis invicem unice dilectus,*

*Pastor omni cura in Gregis Salutem sui invigilans,  
Coneionibus se Pietatis strenuum præbuit Monitorem,*

*Exemplo Ducem.*

*Neque minus severam Sacerdotis Gravitatem*

*Suavissimis temperavit Moribus,*

*In sanctitate edenda sibi rigidus, aliis jucundus,*

P p 2

In

CHAP. VI.

*In Rebus gerendis Dubium, Prudentiam prius  
 An involatum miremur Justitiæ Studium  
 Pauperibus minime ostentandi se Causa liberalis  
 Munificentiam iis suam altiori Rivo  
 Quo minore Strepitu fluere voluit;  
 Rara erga Amicos et de se bene merentes Fide,  
 Offensarum quam cito oblitus,  
 Beneficii accepti Memoriam nunquam deposuit,  
 Egrediis huius Animi solitus parem attulit Modestiam,  
 Alienæ virtutes Æstimator justissimus haud æquus sum  
 Idioque Invidia major plus merito Gloriæ,  
 Quoniam vitæ neglexerat,  
 Moriens consequutus est.*  
 Obiit VII. Cal. Maii Anno Domini MDCCIX.  
 Optimo Parenti  
 Nic. Hall, Filius natu maximus  
 Possuit.

Just below, against the wall of the Choir, are three modern monuments adjoining each other. The first is composed of white statuary marble, and consists of a square tablet, over which, in a circular pediment, is represented, in basso relievo, an Angel with his face hid in his drapery, reclining on an altar, on which is placed an Urn; the whole overshadowed with branches of Cypress, and underneath is the following inscription:

Mrs. S. P.  
 Clarke.

*Sacred — to the Memory of Sarah Price Clarke, who was the only surviving issue and heiress of Godfrey Clarke Esq. of Sutton Hall, in the County of Derby. She departed this life in the City of Exeter, on the 24th November, 1801. In her were united all the virtues which give dignity to birth, or utility to fortune, her mind possessed an energy which doth not always mark the female character, her friendship was warm, and her charity was never restrained by individual convenience, her bosom was the seat of those energies which give activity to virtue. Possessed of superior talents, and unimpeached honour, she never pursued frivolity with severity, or the loss of fame with triumph. Her latter years were marked by declining health, and her sufferings by patience. Her faith was fervent, her reward was sure.*

Adjoining is the monument (already described) of Bishop Ross: and next to this is one, almost similar to that of Mrs. Clarke's, excepting the Angel, who is here represented full faced: on this monument is the following epitaph:

Lady  
 Southamp-  
 ton.

*Near this place are deposited the mortal remains of Laura, Wife of George Ferdinand, Lord Southampton, and second Daughter of the Right Rev. Dr. Frederic Keppel, sometime Bishop of this Diocess.*

*Diocess.* She departed this Life, at Dawlish in this County, CHAP. VI.  
10 June, 1798, in the 34th year of her age.

*Farewell, dear Shade! but let this marble tell  
What heavenly worth, in youth and beauty fell!  
With ev'ry virtue blest, whate'er thy lot,  
To charm a Court, or dignify a cot,  
In each relation—shone thy varied life  
Of Daughter, Sister, Mother, Friend and Wife.  
Seen with delight in fortune's golden ray,  
Suffering remain'd to grace thy parting day:  
When smiling languor spoke the candid soul,  
And patience check'd the sigh, affection stole.*

Further on, in recesses in the Wall of the Choir, are two very ancient monuments, representing two Knights completely armed in coats of mail; their left hands holding shields, which are placed over their breasts; and their right grasping the hilts of their swords, which are girded to their bodies by strong belts: their helmets are placed under their heads; their legs are crossed, to denote their having been in some Crusade to the Holy land, and their feet are rested on Lions: they appear to have been painted, and on their shields were depicted their armorial bearings, but they are now obliterated, together with the Epitaphs.

One of these monuments (according to tradition) was erected to the memory of ——— *Raleigh*, of *Raleigh*, Maternal ancestor to the Family of *Chichester*; and the other, to the memory of *Humphrey de Bohun*, Earl of *Hereford* and *Essex*, and Constable of *England*. This Earl was Father to *Margaret Countess of Devon*, Wife of *Hugh Courtenay*, the second Earl of *Devon* of that name: over the statue was this inscription:

*Epitaphium D. Bohunni illustrissimi  
Quondam Comitis Herefordensis.  
Oh Bohunne Comes! clarè de sanguine nate!  
En! rapit vitæ stamina parca tuæ.  
Dejicit illa viros illustri stemmate natos:  
Insuper obscuros dejicit illa viros.  
Aspicite humanam Bohunni in imagine sortem?  
Cunctos mors panda falce cruenta secat.\**

Almost

\* This Earl taking part with *Thomas, Duke of Lancaster*, in his opposition to the arbitrary proceedings of King *Edward 2d*, was slain at *Borough-bridge* in *Yorkshire*, by a Welchman, who thrust a spear up his body as the Earl was passing over a bridge. This accident happened three years before the marriage of his Daughter with the Earl of *Devon*; and as he died so far North, it is very improbable that he should be buried in *Exeter*, where he had little or no connexions; but, according to *Weever*, it was common in those days for persons of eminent rank to



**CHAP. VI.** Almost over these ancient monuments, is one of variegated marble, lately erected: it is small, but neatly executed, and records the following memento:

Mrs. Ann  
Buller.

*To the Memory of Ann Buller, Widow of William Buller, D. D. late Bishop of Exeter, and Daughter of John Thomas, D. D. late Bishop of Winchester. She died Aug. 28th 1800, Aged 62.*

Nearly opposite, is a square marble tablet, fixed on the South wall, on which is as follows:

William  
Norris, Esq.

*To the Memory of William Norris, Esq. of Nonsuch, in the County of Wilts, who died January 26th, 1794, in the 78th year of his age.*

Against the same wall, is a small but neat marble sarcophagus, enriched with branches of cypress; on the front is this inscription:

William  
Corneck,  
Esq.

*Sacred to the Memory of William Corneck, Esq. who died at Starcross, December 27th, 1802, aged 46. Possessed of liberal sentiments, all those who knew him, deplored his loss. His friendly disposition, and exemplary life, were singularly conspicuous, and corresponded with the courteous manner in which he fulfilled the duties of a husband and a father. As a tribute due to his worth, this Monument was erected by his disconsolate Widow.*

On the same wall are fixed two more small marble tablets, on the first of which is inscribed:

Rev. George  
Nutcombe.

*Rev. George Nutcombe, L. L. B. born at Exeter, February 17th, 1769; died there May 23d, 1799.*

Mrs Hur-  
ford.

*On the other: Louisa the Wife of Henry Hurford, Esq. who died at Exmouth, November 18th, 1803, Aged 34 years.*

On the East wall of the chapel, the north side of the Library, is a new erected monument of statuary marble, beautifully executed; consisting of a white marble altar, supported by carved brackets, between which is a shield, on which are painted the arms of the defunct. On the altar is a female figure in a reclining posture, weeping over an Urn; on the back ground is an obelisk of black marble, shadowed on one side by a laurel tree; on the altar is this epitaph:

Gen. Bruce.

*To the Memory of The Honourable Lieut. General Bruce, Uncle of the Earl of Elgin, and Kincardine, Colonel of his Majesty's 16th Regiment of Foot, and Member in the late Parliament for Marlborough, and in the present for Great Bedwin, both in the County of Wilts; who departed this life December 12th,*

1797.

have monuments erected to their memory, in different places, and probably this was erected by his Daughter after her marriage: the inscription, which is now mostly obliterated, is not so ancient as the monument; being written by Mr. Hooker, about the reign of King Edward 6th, as appears by the character.

1797, aged 58. *He was hastening to the milder parts of Devonshire, in the hopes of restoring a constitution impaired by the oppressive climates of the two Indies, when death arrested his progress in this City; where he closed an Honourable and Illustrious life, worn out in the zealous service of his Country, as a Citizen and a Soldier.* CHAP. VI.

Near the entrance of the South aisle, is a small, but neat, marble monument, fixed against the Choir wall, on which is the following inscription:

*Near this rest interred the remains  
of Thomas Skynner, L. L. D.*

Thomas  
Skynner,  
L. L. D.

*Successively Archdeacon of Totnes,  
and Præcentor of this Church,  
whose honour and interests  
he was always zealous to promote.*

*To the calls of charity or public spirit  
his purse was never shut.*

*At every place of duty*

*His attendance was regular and exemplary,  
even when ill health might have pleaded a dispensation.*

*To his houses a munificent benefactor:*

*The one he built from the ground,*

*And added to the ornaments and conveniences of the other:*

*At length, lamented by all,*

*He closed a valuable life*

*In his 61st Year, Aug. 7th, 1789.*

Near this is a monument of black and white marble, thus inscribed:

*To the Memory of Charles Hawtrey, M. A. Sub-Dean, and Canon-Residentary of this Church, who died 3d May, 1770, aged 83. As a Husband, Parent, Master, and Friend, he was affectionate, tender, kind and true: extensive in his Charity but secret: a faithful Minister of Jesus Christ: after a long and melancholy illness, borne with the fortitude of a Christian, he was released from this world, to reap the fruits of his piety, in a better.* Charles  
Hawtrey,  
A. M. Sub-Dean.

Opposite is a plain mural monument of marble, bearing this inscription:

*Underneath lieth the body of Dorothy, the Wife of Robert Bennet of Halmston, in this County, Gent. and Daughter of Edward Bennet of Hexworthy in the County of Cornwall, Esq. who died the 10th day of October, Anno Domini, 1736, Ætat. 34.* Dorothy  
Bennet.

On the South wall of the Choir is a small plain monument, with the following:

*To the Memory of William Weston, Esq. youngest son of Stephen Weston, Bishop of Exeter, many years Captain of an Indian,* William  
Weston,  
Esq.

CHAP VI. *Indiaman, and at his death Registrar of this Diocess. This monument is dedicated by Charles Weston, Prebendary of Durham, &c. his Nephew & Eror. Obt. 30th June, 1773, Ætat. 62.*

On a Pillar adjoining *Bishop Cotton's* monument, is one of white marble, consisting of an oval tablet surrounded with laurel leaves; on the tablet is the bust of a Priest, beautifully executed in relief: a mantle is suspended below with this epitaph.

Edward  
Cotton,  
S. T. P.

EDWARDUS COTTON, S. T. P.  
*Thesaurarius et unus e Canonicis  
Residentariis, Filius Gulielmi Cotton,  
Præcentoris, Filii Gulielmi Episcopi  
Hujus Ecclesiæ. In Argumento &  
Genio subtilis; Doctrina, Pietate et  
Charitate angelicus, ad Damnum  
Ecclesiæ, et ad Dolorem Amicorum,  
Viz. omnium, obiit 11 Novembris, Anno  
Salutis 1675.*

Sir Peter  
Carew.

Sir Gawen  
Carew and  
Lady.

In the Chapel, on the North side of the Library, and against the North wall, is a table monument of freestone, in the under part of which lies the Statue of a Knight, completely armed, and his legs crossed: on his shield are depicted the arms of the ancient family of the *Carews*; and on the wall, behind the Statue, *Sir Peter Carew*, in characters, now almost obliterated. Over him, on the table part of the monument, lie two other figures, the one of an armed Knight, and the other of a Lady, representing *Sir Gawen Carew*, and his wife. The inscription is very much mutilated, but this remnant remains:

Walter Dowrich of Dowrich, Esq. married the only Sister of this Sir ——— \* \* \* \* \* knyght, under figured, elder brother to the —ter Carew, knyght, was slayne † On this monument are two dates, one cut in stone, 1589, the other in black paint, 1581.

On the East wall of this Chapel, is fixed a very clumsy monument of freestone; on the base, is a coarse representation of a naked youth sleeping, surrounded by flowers, with a hour glass at his feet; above is a coffin covered with a pall, from which, angels are represented as in the act of conveying the soul of the defunct, shrouded in a cloud, to happiness: over the whole is this inscription:

Mrs. Eliz.  
Barrett.

*To the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett, the Wife of John Barrett, Gent. whose body is interred at the East end of Lady Chappell neere the high altar under a marbell stone.*

For

† The inscription originally was thus: *Walter Dowrich of Dowrich, Esq. married the only sister of this Sir Peter Carew, knyght, under figured, elder brother to the Lord Carew of Clopton: which Sir Peter Carew, knyght, was slayne in Flanders.*

*For that the Elder Attridge's Grief  
 No Pensill can expresse to Life  
 For Iphigenias luckless hap  
 His Face a blacke veile must enwrap  
 And for the graces here enshrid  
 Cannot by art's Quill be defined  
 Loe here a Veile of sable Herse  
 Instead of Comment of all verse  
 Great Greifes as Graces are neere one  
 They silence both expression*

*Bless'd Soule who Angel<sup>a</sup> had's yet strive to raise  
 Whe Angel<sup>a</sup> Togues sayller in thy due Praise.*

Adjoining this, is a small monument of freestone, representing a young man in the act of praying: before him is an organ, and behind him several musical Instruments; and over his head are Cherubims appearing from the Clouds: the inscription is partly obliterated; it was as follows:

Matthew  
 Godwin.

*Matthei Godwin  
 Adoloscens pui, mitis,  
 Ingeniosi, Musicæ Bacchalauii:  
 Cathed. Cantuar: et Exon: Archimusici;  
 Æternæ Memoræ posuit G. M. Fr:  
 Viri Annos 17, Menses 5.  
 Hinc ad Cælum migravit  
 12 Januarii 1586.*

In this Chapel is another monument, fixed against a Pillar; it is of blue marble, partly gilt, and has the following inscription:

*Memoriæ  
 Johannis Bidgood, M. D.  
 Hac Civitate III. Id. Martii nati  
 CIOIOCXIII  
 Denato vero Idibus Januarii CIOIOCXV  
 S.*

Dr. Bid-  
 good.

*Quam si Artis Medicæ  
 Anglicanig: Nominis  
 Decus et Ornamentum,  
 Si Hippocratem, Galenum,  
 Istiusve Sæculi Æsculapium  
 Dixeris*

*Verecunde dixeris Viator.*

Upon a tablet below this Epitaph, is as follows,

*Hum: Bidgood Consanguineus  
 Et in totum Assem Hæres institutus*

Q q.

*Gratitudinis*

## CHAP. VI.

*Gratitudinis æternæ  
Hoc Testimonium venerabundus  
Posuit.*

Near the centre of the Chapel, is a grave stone, on which is the portrait of a Priest, engraved and inlaid in Brass, with a scroll issuing out of his mouth, bearing this inscription, "*Dñe Jhu scdm actū meū noli me judicari*," and on the stone is this epitaph :

William  
Langeton.

*Hic jacit Magister Willius Langeton Consanguineus Magri  
Eđi Stafford Eron Epi quond.™ Canonicus hujus Ecclesiæ, Qui  
obiit 29.º Die Januarii Anno Dñi millmo CCCC.º tertio decimo  
cujus Animæ ompē Deus. Amen.*

Sir John  
Gilbert, &c.

In the Chapel on the South side of the Library, is an Altar monument of Freestone without any inscription remaining ; it was erected to the memory of *Sir John Gilbert*, Knight, and his Wife, (daughter of *Sir Richard Chudleigh*, of *Ashton*) their effigies are represented laying at full length, side by side, upon a bed of State, over which is a canopy supported by pillars ; on the back are three shields, on the first of which are the arms of *Gilbert*, on the second *Gilbert's* and *Chudleigh's* impaled, and on the third *Chudleigh's* alone. †

Near this is a white marble monument, on which is a bust finely executed ; underneath is this short epitaph :

Edmund  
Davie.

*In  
Memoriam Edmundi Davie,  
Qui Obiit 22 Januarii  
1692.*

Against the South wall is a mausoleum, consisting of a lofty plinth of freestone, on which is a very large white marble pedestal, supporting two busts, the one of a Priest in his gown and band, the other of a Lady in a loose dress ; also an Angel holding a medallion, on which is a profile bust of a young woman, in basso relievo, around it is this inscription :

*" Mearum, heu ! Dulce Decus, Columque Rerum."*

The back part of the monument is of black marble, over which is a pediment ; and under the pediment are three shields, charged with painted armorial bearings. On the pedestal is this inscription :

*Hic placide in Christo dormit*

*Martha Fursman :*

*Quæ Patre orta Gasparo Radcliffe de Franklyn Arm.™*

*Matre autem Iana Filia Salamonis Andrew de Lyme-Regis*

*Utrisq; Natalibus Generosa ;*

*Nata est 15 Die Mensis Maii A. D. 1688 :*

*Sub*

† This *Sir John Gilbert*, was Knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1570, and was Sheriff of Devon in 1574.

*Sub benignis autem penetratibus Materteræ suæ carissimæ  
Marthæ, Henrici Manaton Arm.<sup>ri</sup> Uxor et Viduæ pietissimæ*

*E Parvula enutrita est: et amata multum:*

*Hæres tandem ex asse ab Improle instituta*

*Viro Reverendo Johanni Fursman Clerico, A. M.*

*18 Mail A. D. 1721, nuptum data est:*

*Et summo decore omnes Matronæ Partes sustinebat:*

*Pia, Proba, Casta, Verecunda, Recti Tenax, intemcrata fide &  
honore*

*In sodalium Consuetudine et Colloquiis*

*Non morose silens; nec muliebriter garrula:*

*Erat enim Illi lentus Risus, sermo rarus, Censura nulla.*

*Formæ porro Gratiæ et Dignitati Animam adjuugebat candidam  
et sinceram,*

*Ingenium Mite & Benevolum;*

*Prudentiam rerum agendarum scientem;*

*Et verendam quandam morum Gravitatem;*

*Nihil leve, nihil indecorum, nihil se indignum tolerantem.*

*Hic virtutibus exercitata*

*Proh dolor! Affectu convulsivo subito correpta,*

*4 Die Mensis Junii A. D. 1727, Gravida e vivis excessit!*

*Et triste sui Desiderium reliquit*

*Pauperibus, Amicis, Cognatis, Marito, et Filiæ unicæ,*

*Martha Fursman*

*Quæ 2 Septr.<sup>is</sup> A. D. 1723.º Nata*

*Virtutum Matris et Bonorum Hæres,*

*Variolis, cheu Genere maxime pestiferis! quam infelicer! lecto affras.*

*Morbum adgravascentem sensit non timuit*

*Et ingruentem Mortem Animo pertulit.*

*Forti, Erecto, et minime Pertubato;*

*Quali Innocentem, quali Christianam decuit:*

*Et 23 die Octob. A. D. 1741, Animam puram et incontaminatam*

*Deo redidit:*

*Uzori et Filiæ heu! nimis propere abreptis!*

*Hoc monumentum superstes posuit*

*Johannes Fursman Eccl.<sup>a</sup> Cathed.<sup>a</sup> Exon Cancellarius;*

*Et cum Illarum Cineribus suos etiam admisceri cupit:*

*Et una cum Dilectis Cælestem ad Gloriam feliciter resurgat,*

*Nunquam iterum Disjungendus. †*

On the centre of the pediment is an Urn of white marble, which during Mr. Fursman's life time occupied the place where his bust now stands; but at his decease it was removed to its present situation.

Q q 2

A List of

† In this Chapel is a female Skeleton in a wooden box, which is shown to the vulgar as that of a woman who was executed for the murder of her bastard child: how it came to be placed here, we can get no information; but probably it was the property of Dr. Vilvaine, and removed to the Church with his Library.

A LIST OF  
**THE PRESENT DIGNITARIES, CHAPTER,**  
 AND  
**OTHER MEMBERS,**  
 OF THIS ANCIENT AND VENERABLE FABRIC.

**THE BISHOPRIC.** *The Lord Bishop,* JOHN FISHER,  
 L. L. D. elected 1803.

VALUE.—First fruits, on the King's Books, 500*l.* Yearly  
 Tenths, 50*l.* Estimated Rents, about 2000*l.*

**THE DEANRY.** CHARLES TALBOT, B. D. 1803.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tithes and patronage of  
*Colyton Raleigh, Bishop's Tawton, Braunton, Lankey, and*  
*Swimbridge.* First fruits in the King's Books, 158*l.* Yearly  
 tenths, 15*l.* 16*s.* The King, Patron.

DEAN AND CHAPTER. AS A BODY.

VALUE.—First fruits, 1132*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* The Dean and  
 Chapter were returned, by the Commissioners, temp.  
*Henry 8th,* to be worth in temporal possessions, the clear  
 annual Sum of 1179*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*

COLLEGE OF VICARS CHORAL.

VALUE.—First fruits, 205*l.* Yearly tenths, 20*l.* 10*s.*

**PRECENTOR.** GEORGE GORDON, B. D. Preb. Canon,  
 and Precentor, 1789.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tithes of *Paignton,* and  
*Chudleigh,* in the King's Books, 99*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Yearly  
 tenths, 9*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*

**CHANCELLOR.** NUTCOMBE NUTCOMBE, L. L. B.  
 Preb. 1755, Chancellor of the Church, and Canon, 1757.

VALUE.—Endowed with the great tithes of *Stoke Gabriel,* in  
 the County of *Devon,* and *Newlyn,* in *Cornwall:* in the  
 King's Books, 99*l.* Yearly tenths, 5*l.* 18*s.*

**ARCHDEACON OF EXETER.** THE BISHOP, PREB.  
 TREASURER, and CANON, 1803.

VALUE.—The Treasurership is endowed with the great tithes  
 of *Probus,* in *Cornwall,* with several other Estates, in the  
 King's Books, 32*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* Yearly tenths, 3*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*  
 Archdeaconry of *Exeter,* King's Books, 60*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*  
 Yearly tenths, 4*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*

**ARCHDEACON OF CORNWALL.** GEO. MOORE,  
 A. M. PREB. 1769. CANON, 1775. A. D. 1788.

VALUE.—The King's Books, 50*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* Yearly tenths,  
 5*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* Archdeaconry

**ARCHDEACON OF TOTNES. RALPH BARNES, A. M. CHAP. VI.**

PREB. 1769. CANON, 1772. A. D. 1775.

CHANCELLOR, DIOCESS, 1794.

The Archdeaconry is rated in the King's Books, 37*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*Yearly tenths, 3*l.* 15*s.* 11½*d.***ARCHDEACON OF BARNSTAPLE. JONATHAN**

PARKER FISHER, B. D. A. D. 1805.

The Archdeaconry is endowed with the impropriation of

*Lynton*, and *Countisbury*, King's Books, 49*l.* Yearly tenths, 4*l.* 18*s.***SUB-DEAN. JOHN STURGES, L. L. D. SUB-DEAN, 1796.**VALUE.—Endowed with the great tithes of *Egloshaile*, in *Cornwall*, King's Books, 22*l.* 10*s.* Yearly tenths, 2*l.* 5*s.***FIRST CANON. THOMAS HEBERDEEN, B. D. 1778.****SECOND CANON. JOHN FRANCIS HOWELL, A. M. 1794.****THIRD CANON. JOSEPH MARTIN, A. M. 1796.**Twenty-four Prebendaries. King's Books, 4*l.* each. tenth of each 8*s.* The annual income is now augmented to 20*l.* each.

JAMES CARRINGTON, L. L. B. 1775.

JOHN GANDY, A. M. - - - - 1777.

RICHARD MILLES, A. M. - - - 1778.

JOHN SWETE, A. M. - - - - - 1781.

WILLIAM CARPENTER, D. D. - 1785.

SIR H. TRELAWNEY, Bart. A. M. 1789.

WALTER KITSON, A. B. - - - - 1796.

GILBERT BURRINGTON, A. M. 1798.

EDWARD HONEYWOOD, L. L. D. 1799.

EDMUND GILBERT, A. M. - - 1800.

JOHN ROBERT HALL, A. M. - - 1802.

CHARLES DAVIE, A. M. - - - - 1803.

WILLIAM OXNAM, A. M. - - - 1803.

WILLIAM SHORT, A. M. - - - - 1805.

PHILIP FISHER, D. D. - - - - 1805.

**LECTURERS.**

WILLIAM STABBACK, A. B. - - 1799.

JOHN BRADFORD, A. B. - - - - 1804.

**CUSTOS AND COLLEGE OF VICARS.**

JAMES NEWCOMBE, A. B. Sub-Treasurer, and Dean's Vicar - 1758.

RICHARD EASTCOTT, S. C. L. - 1775.

GEORGE LONG, A. B. - - - - 1775.

EDWARD CHAVE, A. M. Custos 1799.

†

Having



**CHAP. VI.** Having finished a description of the Cathedral, I shall proceed to give some account of those places, most worthy of notice, in the Close of *St. Peter* which is extra-parochial, and is so denominated, from its having been separated from the City by Walls and Gates. The Walls are now demolished, and Houses built on their site; but the Gates are still remaining.

The principal Gate is now called the *Broad-gate*, anciently *St. Michael's*, from its having the statue of that Archangel overcoming *Satan*, placed in the interior front; this embellishment is now much mutilated. In the vaulting of this Gate is displayed elegant tracery. *St. Martin's-gate* appears formerly to have been ornamented with tracery; a small part now remains. *Little Stile* is not void of ornaments. The other three Gates, at present, have a mean appearance, and deserve no particular attention, except for their antiquity.

About the year 1750, another passage was made into the Close, through the City wall, which makes a convenient avenue into *Southernhay*, and is termed the *New Cut*.

Within the inclosure is the Bishop's Palace, and residentiary Houses for the Dean, Chanter, Canons, &c. That part which is now termed the Church-yard, was anciently the general Cemetery, and though it has been disused for that purpose, upwards of two Centuries, human bones of the ancient citizens are still discovered in great numbers wherever there is an occasion for digging.

This yard was first railed round at the expence of the Chamber, who granted one hundred trees from *Duryard-Wood* for that purpose, in the year 1657. It has, of late years, been greatly improved; and railed out, in separate divisions, well gravelled, and planted with Elms in various rows, forming several pleasant and shady walks.†

Among the late improvements, one in particular claims observation, which is the judicious removal of the Treasurer's house; this extended from the North Tower quite across the Church-yard, and entirely intercepted the view of the Cathedral from the North transept, Eastward: by the removal, a pleasing opening was made, by which the whole Northern side was presented to the view, and which now forms a noble perspective of ancient architecture. The part which was formerly the garden belonging to the Treasury, now forms a fine grass plat planted round with evergreens, and is separated from the ancient part of the Church-yard by iron pallisadoes.

The

† The whole of the Yard was new gravelled, at the expence of the Chapter, this present year 1802.

The South side of the Cathedral is so crowded with contiguous buildings, that no near view can be taken but from the Bishop's gardens. On this side is the Chapter house, a large building founded by *Bishop Lacey*, and finished in 1456 by *Bishop Nevill*. CHAP. VI.  
Chapter  
House.

The inside of this edifice was embellished with a great number of Statues, as appears by the niches still remaining; but they fell a prey to puritanical superstition in the grand rebellion, when it was used as a stable for Soldiers' horses: the outside is so closely surrounded by the Cloisters and other buildings, that scarce any part is seen but the battlements.

In the front of the Chapter house are the Cloisters, forming a small square area, round which are houses for the Sub-Chanter, Secondaries, Vergers, &c. and a music-school (in which is a small organ) for the instruction of the young choristers; this area was also a burying place, but has not been used for many years; several of the grave-stones are still remaining; it is planted with rows of Elm trees; and through it is the passage by the South door into the Church; these Cloisters are an assemblage of ancient and modern architecture, and appears to have been formerly more extensive. Near the West front of the Cathedral, is the College of choral-Vicars; § consisting of four Priest and eight Lay-Brothers, who have each of them a convenient house; they formerly lived in common together, for which purpose, they had a common Kitchen, and Hall, both of which are now remaining; the Kitchen is at this time a public house, (called the College Kitchen,) the Hall is large and commodious, neatly wainscoted, and on the pannels are the arms and portraits of their benefactors; on one side of this Hall is a music-gallery; the Gate-house of the College is a strong stone building, in the front of which, are the arms of *England*, and *France*, quarterly; and under them are the arms of *Bishop Oldham*, supported by two Angels. Adjoining to this Gate-house, is an ancient building, in which the Registrar's office, for the Archdeaconry of *Exeter* is held.

The Bishop's palace adjoins the South East part of the Bishop's Cathedral; and though not a regular, is a very extensive and commodious house; it has a neat Chapel, and several elegant apartments, in one of which is an ancient and curious chimney piece, embellished with carving in the *Gothic* taste, it was erected by *Bishop Courtenay*, as appears by his arms still

§ This College was formerly termed the *Calendar-hay*, and the Gate-house with some other parts of the buildings, was rebuilt by *John Rye*, Treasurer of the Church, in the year 1529.

**CHAP VI.** still remaining upon it: the gardens are large, containing upwards of two acres, bordered on one side by the City walls, on which is a terrace, commanding a pleasant view of the neighbouring country; on this terrace His present Majesty with his Royal Consort and Daughters (in their late visit to this City) walked for some time, and greatly admired the beauties of the surrounding scene; \* the palace and gardens have been greatly improved of late years, particularly by *Bishop Keppel*; who intended to have done much more, if death had not prevented him. There is a private covered passage from the palace to the Church, for the convenience of the Bishop and his Family.

**The Deanry** The Deanry (which was originally a house of Nuns of the order of *St. Augustine*) adjoins the College: it was greatly ruined during the civil wars, being set out to mean tenants; but on the appointment of *Dr. George Carey* to the Deanry Anno 1663, he caused it to be thoroughly repaired and beautified, and it has since been further improved by succeeding Deans, particularly by Dean (afterwards Bishop) *Buller*, in such a manner as to render it not unworthy of the habitation of Princes. The gardens are not extensive, but are well laid out, and planted with trees: here his Majesty, during his short stay, enjoyed his usual practice of very early and salutary walking.

**The Chantry.** The Chantry is a very ancient and roomy house, entirely surrounded by other buildings, and no part of it is to be seen except the entrance, which has a modern frontispiece.

**Chancellor's and other houses.** The Chancellor's house stands Eastward of the Cathedral: it is a neat brick building with its front to a pleasant garden that leads to the City wall, on which is a terrace: this house was rebuilt about the year 1740 by the *Rev. Chancellor Furze*. The other Residentiary houses (several of which have been rebuilt, or modernised) are roomy and convenient, and have pleasant gardens.

**Mol's Coffee-house.** Within the close are many genteel private houses; and at the upper end is a very ancient Coffee-house named *Mol's*, † from its first proprietor, an *Italian* of that name: it is regularly supplied with Newspapers and other periodical publications

\* The perspective beauties of this walk are greatly destroyed by the new buildings erected on *Southernhay*.

† *Anthony Wood* in his *Athen. Oxon.* says that the first Coffee-house opened in *Oxford*, was in the year, 1656, by a Jew, named *Cirques Johnson*, who afterwards removed to *London*, and opened one in *Southampton Buildings*. From the accounts that can be gathered, *Mol's* was established prior to this, which is very probable, as till very lately there was a pediment over the doorway, on which was carved the arms of *Queen Elizabeth*, with the initials *E. R.* and the date, 1596.

fications, and is frequented by Gentlemen of the first distinction in the City and Country. CHAP. VI.

Adjoining *St. Catharine's* (anciently Berkly) Gate is an Alms-house for twelve poor women, under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter; these houses were founded by *John Stevens, D. D.* Canon Residentiary of the Cathedral, who endowed them with seventeen shillings and four-pence yearly; \* but this small stipend is increased by the bounty of the Chapter: there is a small Chapel belonging to this house, which has a Bell still remaining. † There have been several other Benefactors to these houses, viz. *The Rev. William Herne*, Rector of *St. Petrock's* in this City, by his last Will and Testament, dated 10th April, 4th of *Elizabeth*, anno 1562; gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exeter*, the sum of 168*l.* 5*s.* in consideration of their paying weekly, to the poor of this house, thirteen-pence; and for other purposes as will be hereafter mentioned. *Robert Hall, D. D.* Treasurer of the Cathedral, by his last Will and Testament dated 25th April, 1667; bequeathed the sum of Ten Pounds per annum to be paid quarterly in equal portions. *Edward Young, D. D.* sometime Dean of this Cathedral, by his last Will and Testament, dated 6th June, 1663; bequeathed the sum of 250*l.* to be paid, at farthest, within two years after his death, towards the purchasing of Lands in Fee-Simple, or a rent charge; to the amount of twelve pounds per annum; of which forty shillings a year he directed (by his said Will) should be paid to the poor of *St. Catharine's* alms-house; forty shillings to the Choristers of the Cathedral; and twenty shillings a year to the prisoners in the Gaol near the Castle; to be distributed by the Dean of *Exeter* (for the time being) annually on the 29th May, in commemoration of the happy Restoration of Monarchy on that day.

*Dr. Hall* was also a great Benefactor to the Cathedral, and Precinct of *St. Peter*, as appears by an Extract from his Will: first, he bequeathed in trust to the Dean and Chapter 200*l.* to be paid within six months after his decease; the interest whereof to be appropriated for ever, to the binding forth

R r

Apprentices,

\* This donation of 17*s.* 4*d.* per annum, was confirmed by a decree of Chancery, in Trinity term, 6th July, 1633, the 9th of Charles 1st.

† These Alms houses with the (*Country house*) public house adjoining, are the remains of a Benedictine nunnery; but by whom founded, or when dissolved, is not mentioned in the *Notitia* of *Mr. Tanner*; there is still great part of this ancient structure remaining, particularly the Chapel, which is almost entire, with its vaulted roof; and underneath is a stone crypte, this Chapel has long been desecrated, and has of late years, been occupied as a Carpenter's workshop.

CHAP. VI. Apprentices, such poor children, born within the said Close, as the Dean and Chapter should approve of. Secondly, he gave 150*l.* towards purchasing a new set of hangings for the further embellishment of the Choir of the Cathedral Church. Thirdly, he bequeathed sixty Folio and forty Quarto Volumes of Books; to be selected from his Libraries in *Exeter* and *Clisthidon*, by (and at the choice of) the then Dean and Chapter; which Books were to be kept chained in the Library of the Cathedral, and were not to be lent, or removed without sufficient security for the speedy returning of the same, given to the Treasurer of the said Church for the time being. Fourthly, he gave to the said Church his double silver gilt Bason and Ewer of *Nuremberg work*, to be made use of for the adorning the Communion Table in the Choir, and not to be exposed to any private use or employment whatever. Besides these he also left the following benefactions. To the poor of *Exeter* twenty pounds. To the two Vergers of the Cathedral five pounds each. To the Bell toller fifty shillings. To fifty decayed tradesmen of the said City one pound each. And to the Dean and Chapter ten pounds to purchase Rings as a small testimony of his affection for them.

Number of inhabitants in the Close. In the close or precinct of *St. Peter*, according to the late returns made by order of Government in the year 1800; there were 108 houses inhabited by 114 Families, amounting to 571 inhabitants: at the same time there were six houses uninhabited in the said precinct.

I shall next proceed in the Parochial Description: and begin with that of *St. Martin's*, which is contiguous to *St. Peter's*, Close, and in the same Ward (or Quarter) of the City.

*St. Martin's.* This Church, which as well as the Parish is but small, is dedicated to *Martin*, Bishop of *Tours* in *France*; there is no account of the time of its first erection; but it is probable that it was after the *Norman* conquest, from its being dedicated to a *Gallic* Saint. The earliest account we have of it is in the year 1222, when the Parishes in this City were regulated. The Church (as before observed) is small, consisting of a Nave, and small Chancel, with a recess under the tower, forming a small aisle: the Chancel is separated from the Nave by a handsome Gothic screen: the pulpit (which has been newly erected) is a specimen of neat workmanship, and the Church is well seated, and kept in good repair: the tower is pretty lofty, and surmounted with a gilt vane; it contains one Bell, of a deep note, and which is easily distinguished by its sound, from every other Bell in the City: the tower seems

to

to have been erected since the period above-mentioned, as an addendum to the Church, its site not being within the bounds of the Parish, but in the Precinct of the Close; the Parishioners paying a small annual acknowledgment to the Dean and Chapter, of 4*d*. for its standing on their land. The monuments and inscriptions within the Church are as follow :

On the South side, near the Altar, is a small, neat monument, to the memory of *William Holwell, M. D.* (who died 23 June, 1707) with others of his Family.

On the North side is a large heavy monument rudely executed, to the memory of *William Hooper*, Merchant of this City, who died 3*d* Dec. 1715. He was the Founder of several charities in this City.

Behind this Church are the remains of a small Chapel, now converted into a Malt house. This Rectory is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books, at eight pounds, fourteen shillings and nine-pence half-penny; certified value 15*l*. Rector, the Rev. *James Carrington*.

The only House worthy notice in this Parish is, the *Hotel*, a large and commodious Inn, with elegant apartments and accommodation for people of the first Quality, with a large assembly-room, in which are held the Assize Balls, Concerts, and Winter assemblies, of the most distinguished persons of the City and County. In the front is a neat Coffee-room: the situation of the *Hotel* is very pleasant, as it opens to the Parade, and commands a noble view of the Cathedral.

Adjoining the *Hotel* is the *Exeter Bank*, the oldest established Banking House in this City, under the firm of *Sir John Duntze, Bart. Sanders, Hamilton, & Co.*

At the late return of the inhabitants of this City, there were forty-five inhabited and five uninhabited houses in this Parish, in which were resident fifty-one Families, consisting of one hundred and forty nine Males, and one hundred and sixty-one Females; in the whole three hundred and ten inhabitants.

As the Parish of *St. Pancras* has been held, for many years, *St. Pancras*, in Commendam with that of *St. Martin's*, it will be proper (though it is not in the same Ward) to continue the description, with an account of that Church, &c.

It is dedicated to *Pancrasius*, a British Saint, and bears evident marks of great antiquity; but when, or by whom built, we have no account. It is a very small and plain building, forty-six feet six inches in length, and sixteen feet in breadth: it is not decorated with any of these grotesque ornaments, so common among our Saxon ancestors, in their ecclesiastical buildings; or with armorial shields so much

CHAP. VI. used by the *Normans*. The interior is dark and gloomy, consisting of a Nave and Chancel, the latter only is seated; the Pulpit and Font are very old. As no use is now made of this Church, excepting as a Cemetery for a few families, it is consequently very much neglected, and may soon be desecrated.

It has no Campanile, its only Bell is hung in a turreted arch at the West end of the Church: it is a Rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and valued in the King's books at 4*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum, certified value 5*l.*

**The Guild-hall.** In this Parish is the Guildhall, an ancient structure, the Front of which projects into the High-street, and is a jumble of ancient and modern architecture, supported by Moorstone columns.

Over the Vestibule, is a capacious room, in which the Chamber, and principal Citizens, on occasional events, enjoy their convivial meetings, and drink in bumpers of Wine, health and prosperity to the King, Royal Family, &c. In this room the Grand Jury hold their Inquests at the Assizes, Quarter Sessions, &c. Over this are other apartments, in which, some years since, was a quantity of ancient armour, with a number of Matchlock-Musquets, &c. but these rooms serve now, as repositories for the plans of the Estates, writings, &c. belonging to the Chamber; and which are regulated with great order. From the balustrated Leads there is a fine prospect, and on the summit of all is a turret, in which is a Bell, to give notice of the opening the Mayor's Court, and to alarm the Citizens in case of fire, &c.

Behind the Grand jury room is the Council Chamber, where the Members of the Common Council hold their meetings, and deliberate together in private.

The Common hall is spacious: at the upper end is the Court of Hustings, with elevated seats for the Mayor, Justices, &c. and galleries for the Grand, and Petty juries. The arched roof is lofty, with a single span, after the manner of Westminster Hall, and supported by grotesque figures of beasts, in lieu of brackets: from the centre hangs a large brass chandelier, over which is a ventilator.

On each side of the Hall is a Wainscot Press, carved and partly gilt: that on the right hand containing a fine whole length portrait of his late Majesty King *George 2d* painted, and presented to the Chamber, by *Mr. Hudson*, a native of this City; the opposite press contains a similar portrait of the Princess *Henrietta Maria*, (who was born in Bedford House in this City) Daughter of King *Charles 1st*, painted by the celebrated

brated *Vandyke*, and a present to the City from her brother, *Charles 2d*: over the Sheriff's seat, is a fine whole length portrait of *John Tuckfield, Esq.* (who for many years represented this City in Parliament) whose upright conduct as a Senator, and philanthropic disposition, justly merited the esteem of the Citizens of *Exeter*: opposite the hustings, against the wall of the Council Chamber, are three more elegant full length portraits, in superb gilt frames; the central one is that of *Sir Charles Pratt*, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, (afterwards created *Earl of Camden*) who immortalized his name, by his final decision of the illegality of general warrants, which secured to the subject, the blessings of liberty, and put a stop to the arbitrary proceedings of men in power; this picture was a present to the City, by *John Rolle Waller, Esq.* one of its Representatives in Parliament. The portrait on the right hand of this, is *General Monk*, (afterwards *Duke of Albermarle*,) who had so great a share in the restoration of Monarchy, and of our present happy established Government, both in Church and State, after they had been overthrown by civil discord, and designing men, for many years; this picture was painted by *Vandyke*. The other on the left, is the portrait of *Benjamin Heath, Esq.* Barrister at Law, (Father of the present *Judge Heath*,) and Town Clerk of this City, who greatly exerted himself in procuring the repeal of the Act of Parliament, for laying a very heavy impost on Cider, (as already related,) in return for this, the Chamber out of gratitude to his merit, caused the painting to be placed here. Over these paintings is a projecting canopy, to which is affixed a large green curtain, which when drawn up forms a festoon of drapery, and has a pleasing effect; when let down, it effectually covers and preserves them, from the dust and damp air. The Hall is wainscoted round with carved mouldings and brackets, and in the cornice are regularly arranged, a number of small shields, on which are painted, the arms of the different incorporated trades, &c. Behind the Hall, are two dark and gloomy prisons, (termed the *Back-grate*,) used for the confinement of offenders, before their final examination, and commitment to *Southgate*; over those Cells, is a large and capacious cistern lined with lead, that will contain several hundred hogsheads of water, designed as a reservoir in case of accidental fires.

According to tradition, the ancient *Prætorium* of this City, was situated in *Water-beare-street*, where an ancient Saxon building was lately standing, and which for its spaciousness, seemed to have been erected for some public purposes, but from the style of the architecture, does not seem probable that

The ancient  
Guildhall.

it



CHAP. VI. it was designed for a religious use. The origin of the present Guildhall, was a Chapel dedicated to *St. George*; but of the time when it was appropriated to its present use, history is silent. The first mention we have of it, is in the year 1330, in the Mayoralty of *Martin Lekenn*, when it was rebuilt, and probably about this period we may date its first appropriation for Judicial purposes. In the year 1464, this structure becoming ruinous, it was again rebuilt; and in the year 1484, the front part and Council chamber were rebuilt. In 1556, the Council chamber was wainscoted. In 1576, the Court of Hustings was newly erected, with elevated seats for the Mayor, Justices, &c. and two years after, the whole was new ceiled and glazed, and the pump erected in the front. In the year 1593, the whole of the front was rebuilt: some few years since, the roof was plastered withinside, and in 1802, the Hustings were greatly improved, and a new gallery built, for the better accommodation of the Petty Jury.

In this small Parish are thirty-five houses, containing fifty-three families, numbering ninety-three Males, and one hundred and thirty-eight Females, in the whole two hundred and thirty-one.

St. Stephen's.

The next adjoining Parish to *St. Martin's*, is *St. Stephen's*, dedicated to the Proto Martyr: it is a handsome, Gothic building, consisting of a nave, one aisle, a chancel, and long gallery: it is light, roomy, well seated, and kept in good repair. The Chancel is erected on an arch, which crosses the adjoining lane, called *St. Stephen's bow*; consequently it is above the floor of the Church, and is ascended by a flight of steps. The Altar-piece is very neat, and from its elevated situation, has a pleasing effect. At the West end is a lofty tower, in which are three small bells. The time of erecting the old Church, is not recorded, but that it was built before the conquest, is evident, from its being given by the *Norman Conqueror*, to *William Warlewast*, Bishop of this Diocese, and it has been held ever since as a Barony, by the succeeding Bishops. In 1222 it is mentioned as one of the regulated parishes of this City.

The ancient Church becoming ruinous, the present edifice, was raised about the year 1665, the expences of which were partly defrayed by donations, and partly by subscriptions from the Parishioners. In the Church are the following monuments.

On the North wall is a large marble monument to the memory of *Thomas Bolithoe, Esq.* and several of his Family. He died in 1753.

On

On the South wall, is one to the Memory of *Mr. George Potter*, Merchant and Alderman of this City, and a great benefactor towards the building of the Church. He died in 1667. CHAP VI.

There is another to the Memory of *James Rodd*, of Bedford house, Esq. who died in 1678.

The living is valued in the King's book at 7*l.* 17*s.* 3½*d.* certified value 26*l.* The present Rector is the *Rev. James Simmons*.

An annual rent is paid to the *Prince of Wales*, for the bow's encroachment over the Street.

The following donations have at different times been given to this Church and Parish.

*Thomas Bridgman* of this City, Gent. Son of *Arthur Bridgman* (sometime Registrar of the *Archdeaconry of Exeter*,) among other charities, bequeathed 30*l.* for the better support of this Church.

*Anne Lady Clifford*, Countess Dowager of *Pembroke*, *Dorset*, and *Montgomery*, Baroness Clifford of *Westmoreland*, Lady of the Manor of *Skipton* in *Craven*, and only Daughter and Heiress of the Right Hon. *George*, Earl of *Cumberland*, by her deed indented, dated 30th December, 6 *Charles 2d*, Anno 1654, in memory of her Mother the Lady *Margaret Russell*, Countess Dowager of *Cumberland*, (who was the youngest Daughter of the Right Hon. *Francis Russell*, the 2d Earl of *Bedford* of that Family,) born in *Bedford House* in this City, and baptized in this Church, July 9th 1566; did grant and enfranchise the Right Hon. *William Russell*, Earl of *Bedford*, the then Mayor of *Exeter*, and eleven persons more as Feoffees with one close of Land, Meadow, or Pasture, with the appurtenances, lying in the Parish of *St. Sidwell's*, near *St. Ann's Chapel*, containing by estimation, four acres and half, and then of the yearly value of twelve pounds (or thereabouts,) to have and to hold the said close of Land with the appurtenances, unto the said Feoffees, their Heirs, and Assigns for ever; upon special trust and confidence, nevertheless that the sum of Ten Pounds yearly out of the same, should be for ever raised and disposed of, for the putting out and placing (in the way of an Apprentice, in some honest trade or course of living,) yearly to the *World's end*, one poor Child, Boy or Girl, born and residing within the said Parish of *St. Stephen's* (being such a one as shall be found to be destitute of other means of Worldly preferment, and to stand most in need of a charitable provision) to be approved by the said Countess Dowager, during her life, and after her decease, by the Right Hon. *William*,

**CHAP. VI.** *William, Earl of Bedford, and his heirs, and the Mayor of the said City for the time being, and his successors, upon the recommendation of the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish, for the time being, and their successors: and upon further trust, that when eight of the Trustees shall be dead, the surviving Trustees shall convey over the premises to ten other persons of good worth and reputation, inhabiting within Devon and Exeter, to be nominated by the said Countess and her Heirs for ever; to the end that the good intentions of the said Countess may be observed and performed, touching this said pious and charitable use for ever. ‡*

*George Potter, Esq. (late Alderman of this City) by his last Will and Testament, dated 4th March, 1662, devised as follows: Whereas, Thomas Bridgman, Gent. (my near kinsman,) gave the sum of 100 marks, lawful money of England, to be laid out and bestowed in a monument, and for the reparation of St. Stephen's Church in the said City; in lieu thereof, I give towards the new building of St. Stephen's Church aforesaid, the sum of Five hundred Pounds, of like lawful money, to be paid within the space of three years after my decease, as the said work shall be set onward and be perfected. Also I give my Dwelling-house, wherein Mr. Lee now resides in this City aforesaid, for a perpetual habitation for the Incumbent of St. Stephen's Church aforesaid, successively from one to another, and in the vacancy to remain in the hands of the Churchwardens for the time being, and they to be accountable to the next succeeding Minister for the proceeds, and profits which shall out of the same arise. §*

*John King some time a Merchant in Exeter, by his last Will, &c. (among other benefactions to this City) dated 1st June, 1672; bequeathed to the Churchwardens of the Poor of the Parish of St. Stephen's in Exon and their successors*

‡ This Charitable donation is now invested in the power of the Parish Feoffees, and the Field is at present held by lease by Mr. Carter, Upholsterer of the said Parish, at more than double its former rent; yet notwithstanding the great inbancement of the value of the Land, and the care of the present Trustees; by the great advances in the Taxes, Pools Rate, and Tithes, the neat income is not sufficient to fulfil the pious intention of the Donor; this present year, the Trustees caused a number of large Elms which grew in the hedges surrounding this field, to be felled, and sold, which produced a considerable sum of money; this they intended to apply to the use of the charity, and to plant a number of others in their room.

§ This house is situated in King's Alley, is very small, and unfit for a genteel residence, therefore it is never occupied by the Minister, but by the Parish Clerk, who rents it of him.

cessors the sum of 125*l.* to be lent on good security, or laid out in the purchase of lands or lease, and the profits and increase thereof by them and their successors for ever, hereafter to be employed and disposed of in manner following: that is to say, the sum of ten shillings to be paid to the Vicar of the said Parish for the time being, for such preparation Sermon by him to be preached in the said Church of *St. Stephen* in order to the Sacrament, every last *Saturday* in the month, as is now usually at *Plymouth*, and for thirteen months in the year, and in default of the said Vicar not preaching at any time or times hereafter on such *Saturday*, my Will and meaning is, that the said sum of ten shillings shall be paid unto any other lawfully authorized Minister, which the said Vicar for the time being, or the Parishioners of the said Parish shall appoint, or procure to preach such sermon or sermons, for each sermon which such other Minister shall preach as aforesaid, and the overplus of the profits of the same sum of 125*l.* at six per cent, per annum, being twenty shillings, my Will is, that twelve shillings thereof shall yearly be paid to the Clerk of the said Parish, and the eight shillings residue to the Sexton for the time being, for their attendance on the said Vicar or Minister to preach as aforesaid; my farther meaning is, that when, or as often, as there shall be *default* or *neglect* in preaching, in any *month* hereafter, in such manner before expressed, the said sum of ten shillings for every *neglect* or *default*, shall be given and bestowed on the *poor* of the said Parish, or to any *good use* which the Churchwardens or any other substantial householders, and Parishioners, shall think fit and direct for the *use* of the said Parish.

On the late survey, there were in this Parish 61 inhabited, and 2 uninhabited houses, containing 74 families, numbering 184 males, and 297 females; in all 481 inhabitants.

Adjoining the Parish of *St. Stephen*, is the extra-parochial Precinct of *Bedford*, occupying all the land formerly belonging to the Monastery of *Benedictine* (or Black) Monks; which was founded by one of the Abbots of *Tavistock*, to which it was a cell. It was a large and sumptuous building, and had elegant apartments for the accommodation of the Lordly Abbots of *Tavistock*, whenever they came to *Exeter*: there was also a fine Church and large cemetery. At the dissolution, it was granted (together with the Abbey of *Tavistock*) to *John Lord Russel*, afterwards created *Earl of Bedford*; and from the Earls and Dukes often residing here, it received the name of *Bedford House*, but of late years it was much neglected by that Family, and divided into several Tenements; in the year 1780 the ancient house, with  
S s great

**CHAP VI.** great part of the gardens, were let on a building lease to *Mr. Robert Stribling*, an eminent builder of *Exeter*, who demolished the old remains, and erected a handsome, uniform Crescent, \* consisting of fourteen genteel houses. In the front is a large circular area, surrounded with iron rails, within which is a circular gravel walk bordering a level grass plat, which is planted irregularly with trees: in the centre of the building is placed an ancient tablet, (taken from the front of the old House) on which is carved in relief, the armorial bearings of the Noble House of *Russel*, quartered with several coats of arms, supported by two Angels. Behind the houses are Mews consisting of Stables and Coach houses; every house having a passage through the garden.

On the erection of the Crescent, a fine avenue was made to it, with the Chamber's consent, by taking down part of the City walls, and making a new road across the *Pass* and *Southernhay*.

**Theatre.** On the right hand of this road, just without the walls, (not in the precinct of *Bedford*, but in the Parish of *St. David*) was erected some few years since, a neat and convenient Theatre, of Brick, with Stone copings: in the front is a Colonnade, supported by *Tuscan* Columns, and over the Colonnade is a Stone escutcheon on which are carved in relievo the City arms.

In this Precinct, are 17 houses, inhabited by 17 Families, consisting of 45 Males, and 71 Females, in all 116 Inhabitants.

**Allhallows, Goldsmith's street.** To the Parish of *St. Stephen* is annexed that of *Allhallows, Goldsmith's-street*, which is dedicated to all the Saints. The Church is small and gloomy, and not being made use of, is consequently dirty, and in bad repair within: it consists of a Nave, which extends itself under the Tower, and is 41 feet in length, and 20 in breadth; a small Chancel 15 feet by 12: it has no gallery; the tower is low, and has only one bell; the Pulpit, Font, and Altar are very ancient, and the whole Church bears the mark of great antiquity, but of the time of its erection, we are left in darkness; the first mention that is made of it is in the year 1222, when it was regulated as one of the Parish Churches of *Exeter*; but since the reformation, the Parish being very small and private Masses, &c. (that mint of Papal superstition) abolished, the income is too small to maintain an incumbent; it is valued in the King's Books at 6*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* per annum, certified value 12*l.* and the presentation

\* According to the original plan, 14 more houses were to have been erected on the opposite side, which would have formed a complete Circus: but this side is at present occupied by a few old buildings, Stables, &c.

tion is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter. In the Papal CHAP. VI.  
times there was an Image of the Blessed Virgin, before whom  
candles were kept perpetually burning: the expences of  
which were defrayed by an Estate near *Duryard*, appropri-  
ated for that purpose: this Image was much resorted to by  
the superstitious, and brought great profits to the Rector; it  
was destroyed at the reformation. In this Church the only  
monumental inscriptions worth preserving are the following:

On the left hand against the wall of the Chancel, is a monu-  
ment of white marble, consisting of a square Tablet, sur-  
rounded with Festoons of Flowers and underneath are two  
human skulls conjoined with Bat's wings; on the top is a  
Shield, on which are painted, in a lozenge, the Lady's arms;  
the whole of the carving is executed in a masterly manner, and  
on the Tablet is this inscription:

*Loveday, the Daughter of Christopher Bellett, (late of  
Bochim in the County of Cornwall) Esq. by Bridget the  
Daughter of William Pendarves, (of Roscrow in the said  
County) Esq. lyes buried near this place, She died in this City  
the 16th day of September, A. D. 1711, of the small pox. A  
distemper so remarkably fatal to her family, that no less than Four  
of her Sisters died of it in the months of February and March,  
1716, in the Boroughs of Penryn, and Fowey, in Cornwall, afore-  
said.*

Adjoining this is a plain white marble oval tablet, and over  
it a shield, on which are painted the arms of *Hele*, and *Bellett*  
impaled; on the tablet is this inscription:

*Near this place lieth Bridget, the Wife of Sampson Hele,  
of this City, Sister to Loveday Bellett, &c. as set forth in the  
adjoining monument, who also died of that fatal distemper the  
small pox, the 10th June, 1719.*

On a plain tablet against the North wall is the following:  
*Underneath lieth the Body of Mr. Thomas Cornish, who de-  
parted this life 4th August, 1759, aged 47. †*

On a flat stone, in the aisle, just below the Chancel, is this  
Epitaph:

*Here lieth the Body of Thomas Westlake, Gent. who departed  
this life the 3d day of Jan. A. D. 1665. ‡*

*Zenas secundus nouerint universi suum  
Nactus quietus est lite et tumultu fori  
Obdormit intus ulla non excitandus tuba  
Ni iudicis supremi quam exaudiet hilarij*

S s 2

*Viril*

† This Mr. Cornish was a Member of the Common Council of this  
City, and died in the year of his Sherifffalty.

‡ This Gentleman was an ancestor of the present Mr. Alderman  
Westlake.

CHAP. VI.

*Vixit Maritus Genitor patromus dominus  
Fidusq. amicus Conjugi natis Clientibus  
Servis bonisq. omnibus vix stendus satis ubi  
Nunc lector et dehinc Causidicis magis fave.*

Here also lieth the Body of Mary Westlake, Relict of Thos. Westlake, who died the 28th August, 1666.

*Here with her Husband lies a Saint, Wife, Mother,  
The world can hardly boast of such another;  
Her knowledge 'bove her sex in things divine,  
Was not unfruitful, but in Grace did shine;  
One month to her, birth, wedlock, death, did give,  
Now she is gone in endl'sse blisse to live.*

Just above this in the Chancel, is another flat stone bearing this inscription :

*Here lieth the Body of Sarah Westlake, y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Tho<sup>s</sup>. Westlake of this City, Gent. deceased, who departed this life the 20th Day of October, A. D. 1666.*

*Here lies the heiress of her Father's face,  
Sage, with grave carriage and diviner grace,  
The Muses' Vol'ry, whom kind cruell fate  
Ravisht from us, and did to Heaven translate :  
Such plants God from Earth's nurs'ry doth remove,  
Betimes to Heavenly Paradise above.*

In this Parish is the Market for Fish, Oats, Grains, Potatoes, &c. This Market place was originally part of the Swan Tavern, and was erected at the expence of the Chamber about the year 1778 ; by which means a great nuisance was removed from the High-street, (where before this period it was held ;) it is small but convenient, part of it is colonaded, and round two of the sides are small shops, for the Fishmongers, Greengrocers, &c. and the other is occupied by the Swan Inn and Tavern. At the corner of *Gandy's-Lane* is the Mayoralty-house, it has no front in the Street, but is large, commodious, and well furnished with Plate, Linen, and every other necessary accommodation for the Public entertainments made by the Mayor and Chamber, and for the Lodging of the Judges during their stay in this City at the Assizes ; the Sword bearer (with his Family,) always resides in, and has the care of this house.

In this Parish are 51 houses, inhabited by 59 Families, containing 129 Male, and 209 Female inhabitants.

There is no Table of Benefactions in this Church, and the only one mentioned on record, is that of *Sir Thomas Ackland of Columb-John* in the county of *Devon*, Knight, who by his last Will, &c. dated 14th September, 1609, enfeoffed certain members of the Chamber, with the Rectory and Sheaf of  
*Churchston,*

*Churchstow*, and *Kingsbridge*; for certain charitable purposes CHAP. VI.  
therein mentioned, one of which was that Six-pence weekly be for ever bestowed in Bread, and given to the poor of this Parish.

North-Eastward of *St. Stephen's* is the Parish of *St. Lawrence*; the Church consists of a Nave with one small aisle, and at the West end is a capacious gallery. § The Altar, which is separated from the body of the Church by low Balustrades is a neat piece of painting executed a few years since by *Mr. Eastment* of this City. This Church is a light Gothic structure, well seated, is kept in good repair, and has sufficient room for the accommodation of the Parishioners. The Tower, in which is only one Bell, is a clumsy ill-proportioned building, much too large for its height, without any spire or vane, and from its being finished at the summit with a coping wall without battlements, has a very odd appearance. \* Adjoining this Tower is a Porch forming the principal entrance into the Church, over the front of the Porch, in a Gothic niche, is a small statue of Queen *Elizabeth*; this statue once decorated a Conduit, which heretofore stood in the middle of the Street, from the remains of which, this Porch was erected. Behind the Church, is a small cemetery, formerly a Garden, the donation of a Parishioner, for the purpose of interring gratis, the bodies of poor Parishioners. The date of the foundation of this Church (which was once appropriated to *St. John's Hospital*) is not recorded, nor is there any account of it before the year 1222, when it is mentioned as one of the nineteen parochial Churches, then in this City. †

During the usurpation of *Oliver Cromwell*, it was one of the thirteen Parish Churches exposed to sale by the Parliament

§ In the year 1803 another gallery was erected over the aisle, at the expence of the Parishioners.

\* The singularity of this Tower, is noted by the facetious *Mr. Andrew Brice* in his *Mobiad*, where he relates the following humorous story. A Country Boy, in company with his Mother, happening to pass by this Church, and observing the Tower, mistook it for the Chimney of the adjoining House, and exclaimed to his Parent, "Mother, Mother, what a gurt Chimbley that little House has got."

† There were two Chapels in this Parish; one in Trinity-lane, with Alms-houses, as appears from the following memorial: *Sub Præsidio S. Petri, Gulielmus Musgrave, M. D. S. S. Trinitatis hanc Capellam retustate collapsam annis 1694, et 1711, restituit et auxit.* And *Bishop Lacy's* register mentions another Chapel dedicated to *St. Bartholomew*, of which there are now no remains: but it may be remarked that, on rebuilding the House belonging to *Mr. Taylor*, Cabinet-maker, an ancient building, with a vaulted roof remaining, was discovered, which plainly appeared of a religious construction, and probably was the remains of this ancient Chapel.



**CHAP. VI.** ment Commissioners, when it was purchased by a worthy Parishioner and given by him to the Parish, and thus preserved from ruin.

It is a Rectory in the gift of the Crown, valued in the King's books at 10*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* per ann. certified value 16*l.*

The Monuments in this Church are few. One to the memory of *Thomas Bradford*, "*qui juvenum Exoniensium institutus erat.*" and another inscribed, "*Optimi integerrimique viri Hugonis Vaghan, armigeri.*" and against the North wall, is a neat marble monument, of modern erection, to the memory of ——— *Jeffery*, Esq. of this City.

Benefactions  
to the  
Parish of St.  
Lawrence.

The following benefactions have been given to the poor of this Parish, viz. *Elizabeth Bucknam*, widow and relict of *William Bucknam*, Esq. (Alderman, and sometime Mayor of this City) by her last Will and Testament, dated 16*th* May, 9*th* Eliz. 1567, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, all that tenement with the appurtenances, situate in the Parish of *St. Petrock*, in the High-street, late in the possession of *Richard Lane* of *London*, Esq. to the intent, that out of the rent of 2*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* there be distributed to five poor householders, of the Parish of *St. Lawrence*, yearly, as the Mayor and twenty-four shall think meet, *Thirteen Shillings and Four-pence*, viz. to every one of them quarterly, *eight-pence*. §

*Sir John Ackland*, of *Columb-John*, by his last Will and Testament, dated 14*th* September, 7*th* James 1*st*, 1609, among other charities, enfeoffed certain members of the Chamber, with the Rectory and Sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, (in the County of *Devon*.) for, and towards the buying of Bread for the poor of the several Parishes mentioned in the said Will, of which this Parish was to receive 1*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.* yearly.

*Elizabeth Seldon*, Widow of *Lawrence Seldon*, (a native and Merchant of *Exeter*.) in addition to her said Husband's charities, which are mentioned in their different Parishes, \* granted, enfeoffed, and confirmed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, the Lands given by her said Husband, with the addition of 100 marks

§ The remainder of the said rent in equal proportions was to be given in like manner to the Parishes of *Allhallows* on the *Walls*, and the *Holy Trinity*, (which will be mentioned in the course of this description) and the three shillings and four-pence overplus were to be equally distributed among the Poor of the three parishes aforesaid.

\* See *St. Mary Major*, *Trinity*, *St. Sidwell*, and *St. Thomas* Parishes.

marks her free gift, on condition that the said Mayor, &c. CHAP VI.  
 should cause to be distributed every Sunday, weekly, after  
 forenoon service, six pennyworth of Bread, to the Poor of  
 this Parish, and maintain the same for ever, as appears by the  
 deed tripartite, dated 29th September, 41st Eliz. 1599.

In this Parish, adjoining the scite of the ancient East-gate, St. John's  
Hospital.  
 are the Hospital and Chapel of *St. John*. But before I pro-  
 ceed to give any account of this foundation, it will be necessa-  
 ry to give some account of the ancient Cell or Priory, built  
 before this, and dedicated to *St. Alexius*: of this small re-  
 ligious foundation, we have little more left than the name,  
 and that it was erected by *William Fitz-ralph*, a citizen hereof,  
 for the habitation of certain poor Priests, in the year 1164; it  
 was afterwards termed *St. Burians*, and in the year 1240, was  
 united to this Hospital of *St. John*. Its scite cannot at this  
 time be determined, but it has been supposed, that it stood  
 in or near *Gandy's-lane*, † from the similarity of the name, Foundation  
of St John's  
Hospital.  
 that lane having heretofore been termed *St. Lucie's-lane*. This  
 Hospital of *St. John*, appears by an indented deed, dated  
 A. D. 1238, to have been founded by *Gilbert and John Long*,  
 (sons of *Walter Long*, an inhabitant of this City,) who endow-  
 ed the same with all their lands, for the maintenance of cer-  
 tain poor people, by them therein placed; and appointed the  
 Mayor and Citizens to be guardians in trust thereof, after their  
 decease. But *Mr. Speed* says that, "this Hospital was a  
 "Priory of *Franciscan Monks*, and so continued until the year  
 "1536, when it was suppressed by Act of Parliament."  
 This contradictory account is easily settled, it being common  
 in those religious foundations, to blend Religion and elemo-  
 sinary acts together, and it is certain that at the dissolution,  
 besides the religious, there were four poor alms-men therein,  
 (who were termed the poor pensioners of *St. John's Hospital*)  
 who had a yearly allowance of 1*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* for their better  
 maintenance during their lives: and *Queen Elizabeth* by her  
 Letters patent, dated 8th November, 1562, granted to the  
 Mayor and Aldermen, the perpetual nomination of them. ‡  
 In the year 1224, a dispute arose between the Mayor and  
 Citizens, on the one part, and the (then) *Bishop Brewer*, con-  
 cerning the patronage of this Hospital, and that of *St. Mary*  
*Magdalene*, in this City, when it was finally agreed by the ar-  
 bitration

† *Gandy's-lane*, received its present epithet, from a very respectable  
 Family of that name, who long resided in it, and of which the present  
*Rev. John Gandy* of *Plymouth*, Prebendary of this Cathedral, is a descendant.

‡ These Pensioners have been discontinued a very few years, and the  
 Author is informed that one (if not two) of them are now living, (1802;)   
 but deprived of both their houses and pensions.

**CHAP VI.** bitration of the *Earl of Devon*, that the Bishops in future, should be Patrons of *St. John's Hospital*, and the Mayor and his successors, should have the government of *St. Mary Magdalene's*. In the year 1256, *Bishop Bronscombe* repaired this House, and endowed it with the Manors of *Rokedon*, and *St. Mary Cist*: his successor, *Bishop Quivill*, was likewise a considerable benefactor to it, both in lands and goods. There is no account of any more gifts or legacies to this charity, but that it continued in the same state, until its dissolution: after that period, it was deprived of all its revenues, and remained in a ruinous state, until the year 1623, when the whole fee and inheritance, together with the Orchard, Gardens, and contiguous buildings belonging to the same, were purchased by *Dame Joan Crossing*, (Widow of *Hugh Crossing*, Esq. sometime Mayor of this City,) and her only Son, *Francis Crossing*, Esq. for the sum of 740*l.* who by their deed indented, dated the 14th January, 1623, granted the whole of the said premises unto thirteen persons, then members of the common council, and to their heirs for ever, upon trust; nevertheless, that the trustees should at all times continue the said house and premises as an Hospital, or Workhouse for the poor of the said City and County, in such manner as the Mayor and common council for the time being, or the major part of them, should direct; the said poor people or children to be always chosen, received, taken, set to work, governed, directed, disposed of, continued and removed into, out of, and from the said Hospital, by the Mayor and common council aforesaid. Notwithstanding the good intentions of this donation, through the errors of the trustees, little benefit accrued to the poor; several attempts were made to remedy the evils, but no good effect was gained, to the great discontent of the pious donors. At length, by additional donations of several other worthy citizens, the Chamber was enabled to procure Letters Patent from King *Charles 1st*, for the foundation of a Hospital, for the relief and pious education of poor children, the expences of which, together with the repairing and new building the edifices thereunto belonging, amounted to upwards of 400*l.* since which time great benefactions have been given to this Hospital, as follows;

*Walter Borough*, Esq. (twice Mayor of *Exeter*.) by his deed indented, dated October 29th, 1625, gave 20*l.* yearly, for ever, to be paid quarterly at the four most usual feasts in the year, by equal portions.

*Nicholas Martyn*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of *Exeter*.) by his last Will, dated August 29th, 1694, bequeathed 200*l.* to purchase Land, for the better support of the Hospital; to which,

which, his Widow, *Susanna Martyn*, added 130*l.* With this money, two houses were purchased, opposite *St. Keryan's Church*, North-street; the rents of which are appropriated to the use of the said Hospital, for ever.

*Thomas Tooker* of this City, Brewer, and sometime Sheriff thereof, by Will, March 21st, 1640, gave an annuity of 4*l.* to continue for ever.

*James White*, Merchant, by Will, dated September 28th, 1643, gave, for ever, a Garden, and Court adjoining to the Hospital, situate in *Little Britain*, in the Parish of *Alkhalloes on the Walls*, in lieu of the annual sum of 40*s.* which for several years, he had paid towards the support thereof.

*Grace Gill*, servant to *Mr. Francis Dabynot*, by Will, April 18th, 1645, bequeathed 5*l.*

*James Gould*, Esq. late Mayor, gave by Will, September 10th, 1656, 100*l.* to be vested in Lands for its use.

*John Mongwell*, late of this City, Stationer, by Will, October 10th, 1658, bequeathed certain Lands, of the yearly value of 5*l.* to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, for ever, towards the purchasing of Bibles for the use of the poor scholars from time to time.

*Rebecca Borough*, Widow of *Walter Borough*, Esq. by an indented deed, dated October 1st, 1649, gave 200*l.*

*Richard Crossing* Esq. late Mayor, for many years in his lifetime, gave 8*l.* per annum, for the support of the Hospital; he also gave in Land and Money, to the value of 500*l.* more, with which the present Corn-market was erected, out of the profits of which, an annual Rent-charge of 30*l.* is paid to the said Hospital for ever, as by an indenture tripartite, dated September 30th, 1661, more particularly appears.

*Ralph Herman*, Esq. late Mayor, by his Will, dated July 25th, 1661, gave an annual Rent-charge of 8*l.* for ever.

*Gilbert Keat*, Esq. late of *London*, Merchant, by an Indenture, dated August 12th, 1656, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, 400*l.* for the maintenance of four Children, two Boys, and two Maids, from time to time, to be taken out of the Parish of *St. Mary Major*, being the place of his birth and baptism: the said two Boys, and two Maidens, to be received in the mentioned Hospital, and the intended Hospital for Maids, within the City, there to be educated, and from thence bound out apprentices: the said children to wear on the sleeves of their Hospital Gowns, G K. §

*John Cook*, Merchant, late of the Common council, by his Will, dated April 19th, 1667, gave 100*l.* to this Hospital.

T t

Stephen

§ That part of the Will respecting their being chosen out of the Parish of *St. Mary Major*, and wearing the badge on the sleeves of their Gowns, is not fulfilled.

## CHAP. VI.

*Stephen Olivean*, Merchant, (also one of the Common council) by Will, dated May 20th, 1668, gave an annuity of 10*l.*

*John Bidgood*, M. D. (native of *Exeter*,) by his last Will, gave 600*l.* towards the maintenance and education of three poor Children, to be admitted into the Hospital. The Chamber by making an addition to this Legacy, purchased a Rent-charge of 30*l.* per annum, issuable from *Duryard Mill*, in the Parish of *St. David*, which according to the Will of the donor, they settled upon the Hospital for ever.

*John Tucker*, Merchant, (a native of *Exeter*,) by his Will, made in 1695, gave to this Hospital, 100*l.*

*John Gupwill*, (sometime Mayor,) gave 30*l.* *Joan Taylor*, Widow of *Peter Taylor*, (late of this City, Merchant,) gave 100*l.* *John Hayne*, Merchant, (late Sheriff,) 10*l.* *Philippa Hayne*, his Widow, 10*l.* *John Lovering*, Merchant, (late of the Common council,) 120*l.* *Dorothea Magridge*, Widow, for many years during her life, 8*l.* annually, and by her Will bequeathed for ever, the income of a tenement, situate in *Colyton*, named *Bearsdon*.

*Robert Vilvaine*, M. D. (a native of *Exeter*,) was a generous benefactor to this foundation: first, he expended near 600*l.* in erecting a new building within the same: and towards the endowment of the Free Grammar School, he gave the inheritance of a tenement, situated in *Paris-street*; then of the yearly value of 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* He likewise purchased of the Mayor and Chamber, for a term of 999 years, a piece of ground in *Exe Island*, on which he built a large Brewhouse, with a Malthouse adjoining, called the *Public Brewhouse*, which he gave to the Chamber for the following charitable purposes, viz. For and towards the maintenance of four poor Scholars, to be taken out of the Free Grammar School here, and sent to *Exeter College* in *Oxford*; and for allowing 8*l.* per annum for a Schoolmistress, to teach poor Children freely, in the Parish of *St. Sidwells*. The following instructions the worthy Doctor also penned, and left to the Trustees, for the better fulfilling his charitable intentions;

“1st. I give for ever, *Thirty-two Pounds* yearly, to be paid quarterly to four Scholars pensions, (to wit) forty shillings each, towards their maintenance in the University, which shall be paid to the Rector or Sub-Rector of *Exeter College*, for the time being, by the Mayor and Chamber or Corporation of *Exeter City*, out of my Brewhouse and Malthouse built, (or shortly to be built) in the Manor of *Exe Island*, belonging to the said City, which Land, I have purchased for that, and other charitable uses.”

“2d. These four Pensioners, are to partake of this exhibition,  
who

who have not of their own, and whose Parents are not of ability to maintain them in the University."

" 3d. These shall be chosen, two out of the High School, *Exon*, and two out of the Free Grammar School, \* and this order is still to be observed in the Hospital, which the master of the School, when he is to present those that are fittest (without any partiality,) to the Mayor and Recorder of the said City for the time being, who shall be electors after my death, together with the Schoolmaster of that School, out of which he or they are to be chosen, or any two of them, who shall choose *City born Children before Strangers*, if they be so well qualified for Learning, Behaviour, toward Lives, and Poverty, without respect to persons."

" 4th. These shall enjoy this Pension seven years, if they shall so long continue in the University, and have no better preferment; but if they take any Cure or Benefice, Academical Fellowship, or Scholarship, or other advancement, exceeding 20*l.* per annum, or if they be absent from the University, more than two months in each year, not giving a satisfactory reason for their absence, to two, or one at least of the Electors, then, his, or their places and pensions, shall be "*ipso facto*" void; and the Electors shall instantly proceed to election, for the supply of the place or places which shall become void, that no time may be lost."

" 5th. If any of those places shall be void, and the School wherein the election is to be made, have no Scholar at the time, qualified to be elected, then the place or places void, shall be supplied out of the other School, if it has any fit or eligible."

" 6th. What exhibition shall come to the receiver's hands during such vacancy, the same shall be given to that Scholar or Scholars, who shall be next chosen to succeed."

" 7th. It is not the Donor's intent, to diminish or abolish the present or future bounty and benevolence of any well disposed Person or Persons, towards the maintenance of any poor Scholars, whose parents are unable to maintain their children at the University, but he much desires, that people would be so well minded to advance learning by free contribution."

" 8th. If hereafter the two Grammar Schools in the said City, shall be united in one, then from thenceforth, all the said four Scholars or Pensioners, shall be chosen out of the School remaining, by the said Mayor, Recorder, and Schoolmaster, or any two of them as aforesaid."

" 9th. The pensions shall be paid to them from quarter to quarter, or a week or fortnight before each quarter, by the

F t 2

Rector

\* These two Schools have been for many years united in one.

**CHAP VI.** Rector or Sub-Rector of Exeter College, their Battles or Commons first deducted, but if it exceed forty shillings (aforesaid) quarterly, they shall battle or common no more, until they have discharged or satisfied the overplus for security or indemnity to the said College."

*Thomas Walker, Esq.* (thrice Mayor of Exeter,) by his last Will, dated Nov. 20th, 1628, gave to his executors in trust, 400*l.* that they should within one year after his decease, therewith procure from the Mayor, and Common council, an annuity or Rent-charge, out of the City Lands, of such yearly value, as should be agreed upon; or in default of such agreement, that the said 400*l.* be laid out in purchasing other Lands, which were to be conveyed to the Mayor and Common council, or such others as they should appoint, towards the founding, erecting, and endowing of a free Grammar School, within the said City, whereby the children of the freemen might be freely instructed in the *Latin* tongue.

*Robert Walker, Esq.* (late Mayor,) son to the aforesaid *Thomas Walker*, by his last Will, dated February 10th, 1663, bequeathed to the Mayor and Common council. 100*l.* to be paid within one year after his decease, and bestowed in Lands; the yearly issues and profits thereof, to be employed in such manner, and to such purposes, as the gift of his Father.

The *Lady Mary Prideaux*, a native of this City, sent 100*l.* to the Chamber, to be disposed of for the placing Children in the Hospital which was erecting for the relief and education of poor Children; for which they gave their receipt, dated September 19th, 1630.

*Sir Benjamin Oliver*, Knight, (late Mayor,) by Will, dated April 16th, 1672, bequeathed 200*l.* towards the maintenance of poor Scholars in the said Hospital.

*George Jourdayne*, Grocer of this City, by Will dated August 22d, 1632, gave to a new Hospital to be erected, 40*l.* And his Widow and Executrix, by Will dated September 27th, 1633, gave 400*l.* to five persons, to be employed to such good and pious uses, within the City and County of *Exon*, as they should think fit; which 400*l.* after much controversy, was in October, 1646, by the Trustees, paid to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty, towards founding and erecting an *English* school within the said City, and providing a convenient room in *St. John's* Hospital for that purpose, to be called the *Free English School*, for the reception of fifty poor Children, to be taught to read, write, and cypher; that the Master of the said School shall have 20*l.* *per annum*, to be paid him quarterly, in equal portions; that the said Trustees, at every vacancy of a Schoolmaster, within sixty days

days after notice given, do nominate two honest men, fit to **CHAP. VI.**  
 undertake the charge of the said School, of whom the Mayor  
 and Common Council, within twenty days after the nomi-  
 nation, are to choose one: and after the decease of the said  
 Trustees, the Mayor and Common council are to nominate  
 the Master for ever.

*Mr. Peter Hellyer* was elected Master of this School, in  
 1637, to which, as well as to the Hospital, he was a liberal  
 benefactor, and gave out of his own salary, &c. for the pro-  
 moting this charity, the following sums. First, by com-  
 putation, he taught forty supernumerary Boys, gratis, (besides  
 those for which he had a pension,) for thirty years together,  
 reckoned at 600*l.* 2dly, He deducted forty Shillings *per*  
*annum* for each Hospital Boy, out of the stipend allowed him;  
 which upon thirty Boys for thirty years, amounts to 1800*l.*  
 more, 3dly, He remitted upon the rent of the Malthouse,  
 and 5*l.* a year, both of which his Predecessor had (respecting  
 monies lent him) valued at 13*l.* *per annum*, for ten years, making  
 130*l.* 4thly, He produced receipts for 500*l.* which he left in  
 the hands of different Stewards of the said Hospital, and which  
 he gave out of his pension of 6*l.* *per annum* for each boy; the  
 whole amounting to 3030*l.*

*Sir John Maynard*, Knight, one of the executors of the Will  
 of *Elizeus Hek*, Esq. (who left a plentiful Estate to be dispo-  
 sed of in charitable and pious uses) among many other cha-  
 ritable actions, gave 530*l.* towards the enlargement, and for  
 the better support of the boys in this Hospital. And for their  
 continual maintenance, he settled upon the said Hospital, the  
 Rents of the Manors of *Clist St. Lawrence*, *Clist Gerald*, and  
*Tign Horsey*, and of five other tenements in *Bovey Tracey*, and  
 two tenements in *Newton Ferrers*, all being in the County of  
*Devon*.

*Christopher Lethbridge*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of Exeter,) by Will, dated November 21st, 1669, gave to the Mayor, Common council, &c. several Lands, Tenements, &c. (which will be mentioned in the proper place) for several charitable purposes; the overplus of the rents of the said Estates, he devised, should for ever be appropriated for the maintenance of one poor boy in this Hospital.†

*Sir Edward Seaward*, Knight, (sometime Mayor, and one of the representatives for Exeter,) A. D. 1703, gave towards the education of the poor children in the Hospital, the sum of 600*l.* which money, with the addition of 119*l.* 4*s.* freely given by the Chamber, was disposed of in the purchasing an Estate in Land, and settled on the Hospital for ever.

*Mary*

† See Parish of Holy Trinity.



**CHAP VI.** *Mary Modgford*, (widow of *John Modgford*, Esq. sometime Mayor,) gave in her life time, 20*l.* for the better support of the same.

*Edward Mitchell*, Gent. by Will, gave thereto, 400*l.* ‡ for the continual maintenance of two boys (if it could be done,) within the same.

*Sir John Ackland*, of *Columb-John*, Knight, gave 16*l.* per annum, towards the support of two poor Scholars, in *Exeter College*, *Oxford*, to be chosen from the High School, which choice is to be approved of by the Mayor, Recorder, Schoolmaster, Rector of *Exeter College*, and the proprietor of *Columb-John*, or any three of them, for the time being.

*Nicholas Clarke*, of the Parish of *St. Sidwells*, Weaver, gave Five Pounds.

*Elizabeth Dowrich*, Widow of ——— *Dowrich*, Esq. of *Dowrich*, in the County of *Devon*, and Daughter of *Thomas Walker*, Esq. (thrice Mayor of *Eron*) by Will, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, 50*l.* towards erecting and endowing a Free Grammar School within this Hospital.

*Henry Gandy*, Esq. (twice Mayor,) gave to this Hospital, the feesimple and inheritance for ever of a tenement, situate in the Parish of *St. Sidwells*, towards the maintenance of two poor boys in the same; which said Boys, were by the Donor's Will, always to be chosen out of the Parish of *St. Paul* in this City.

*Tristram Mitchell*, (late of this City, Woollen-Draper,) by Will, dated July 27th, 1653, bequeathed for the use of the poor Children in this Hospital, twenty coloured English Rugs, and five pieces of Welch Flannel, for Blankets.

*John Martyn*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty by Will, dated October 15th, 1669, the sum of 400*l.* to be paid by his Executors, within twelve months after his decease, and in case of default, the said Mayor, &c. were empowered to enter and take possession of two pieces of ground in the Parish of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, in the County of *Devon*, commonly called *Wood Meadows*, and the inheritance to be theirs for ever; the interest or income of which are for ever to be appropriated for the binding out poor Children Apprentices, such as the Mayor and Justices shall think fit.

*Nicholas Ricost*, (late of *Exeter*, Merchant,) bequeathed the sum of 20*l.* towards the maintenance and better support of this Hospital.

*Grace Sheer*, Widow of *John Sheer*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) gave 50*l.* towards erecting a Dwelling-house within the Hospital,

‡ There was only £320 of this money paid to the Trustees.

Hospital, for a habitation for the Master of the Free Grammar School there. CHAP VI.

*John Newcombe, Esq.* (Alderman, and sometime Mayor,) bequeathed by Will, two large and convenient Dwelling-houses, with the courts and offices belonging to them, situate in the High-street, and in the Parish of *St. Stephen, Exeter*; the profits from thence arising, are for ever to be appropriated to the use of the Hospital.

*Thomas Bridgman, Gent.* (native of this City,) by Will, dated April 3d. 1631, gave 500*l.* to be paid by his Executors, within one year after his death; which sum should be employed by the Chamber of *Exon*, at their religious discretion, towards the relief of the poor of the said City and suburbs, and so to continue for ever; the interest of this money by the mutual consent of his executors and the Chamber, has ever since been appropriated towards binding out the poor boys, educated in this Hospital, when they became of a proper age.

The Chamber of *Exeter* have also been great benefactors to this Charity, by improving its revenues, and rebuilding and enlarging the buildings, in which they have of late years expended great sums. The Dwelling-house for the Master of the Grammar School, (which heretofore was within the front gate, on the left side of the quadrangle,) being small and inconvenient, (which prevented the said Master from accommodating the numerous Boarding Scholars, that made application;) the Chamber erected a capacious brick building without the City Walls, but contiguous to the Hospital, with every accommodation for that purpose, and to prevent the young gentlemen from having too much communication with the Citizens, they enclosed with a stone wall, a large piece of ground behind the house, which forms a spacious area for their exercise and pastime. On taking down the *East-gate*, the front of the Chapel (which before was hid by the contiguous buildings,) was found on a survey, to be greatly decayed, and necessary to be rebuilt, which was accordingly done, and the whole Chapel repaired and beautified.

A few years afterwards, the ancient gateway, (which by its projection into the street, was a great nuisance,) was taken down, and the present elegant Gothic structure, erected in its stead, § and this present year, (1802) the West wing of the front being greatly decayed, and likely to fall, was rebuilt in a style corresponding to the Chapel, which entirely completes the front, and forms a regular *Gothic building*: at the  
same

§ On digging for a foundation for the present gateway, the remains of several human bodies were discovered, which were interred across the ancient entrance; they must have lain there for many centuries.

**CHAP. VI.** same time the Grammar School was repaired and beautified.

The great expences occasioned by these repairs, together with the great advances in the price of the necessary articles of life, obliged the Trustees at present to lessen the number of boys on the foundation, but it is to be hoped, that in a few years they will be enabled to put this charitable foundation on a better footing than ever.

We shall next proceed to a particular description of this Hospital, and first of the Chapel.

St. John's  
Chapel.

After the dissolution of this Hospital, in the reign of *Henry 8th*, the Chapel was neglected, and left in a ruinous state, until the year, 1638, when it was thoroughly repaired and beautified, at the sole charge of *Alice Hele*, Widow of *Blizrens Hele*, Esq. and reconsecrated by *Bishop Hall*. This Edifice (which is part of the front, on the left side of the Gateway) is small and neat, with an arched roof and Gothic Windows, which were formerly glazed with painted glass, of which some remains are left, and arranged in different figures, particularly in the Window over the Altar; where the Arms of the ancient *Earls of Cornwall*, and those of the Families of *Crossing*, and *Hele*, are still in tolerable preservation.

The Altar-piece is neatly painted, with the decalogue, &c. and the half length Portraits of *Moses* and *Aaron*, decorated with Cherubims' heads, neatly carved.

The Communion Table, which is separated from the body of the Chapel by a balustrade, has a beautiful covering of crimson Velvet, decorated with Gold fringe, the gift of *Miss Webber*, of this City. Soon after the late repairs, the Chamber gave to this Chapel, a neat service of Communion Plate of Silver, to which *B. H. Walker*, Esq. Alderman, added a Silver Cup.

The Pulpit is very neat, and on the summit of the Baldequin is a gilt Statue, of an Angel sounding a trumpet. Opposite is an advanced seat richly carved for the Mayor, and Chamber, who generally attend Divine Service in this Chapel, one Sunday afternoon in each month, when service is performed alternately, by one of the Mayor's Chaplains, who are four in number.

Adjoining the reading Desk, and opposite the Mayor's seat, are other advanced seats for Mrs. Mayoress, the Wives of the Stewards, and those of the Gentlemen of the Chamber, who choose to attend; at the West end of the Chapel, is a gallery for the accommodation of the Boarders, which has a private passage to the Master's House and School. There is  
one

one bell belonging to the Chapel, which is hung in a turreted arch at the West end. \* CHAP. VI.

In the front of the Hospital, over the gateway, is a Clock, Dial, and Bell, which were taken from *Eastgate*, at the time of its demolition.

The other Wing in the front, is appropriated to the Grammar School, in which is a capacious room, with elevated seats, for the Master and Assistants, who are Clergymen in orders; the School at present is held in great reputation, and the boarders and scholars are very numerous. In the roof over the School-room, is a glazed cupola, surmounted with a vane, and behind the School is a Library; the present Master of the Grammar School is the *Rev. Robert Bartholomew*. Grammar School.

Under the School and Library, are large Halls, anciently the Cloisters, these are termed the Cloth Hall, and are used for the sale of broad and narrow Woollen Cloths, during the Fairs held in this City, and which brings in a considerable revenue to the Hospital. Cloth Hall.

That part which is appropriated to the use of the Governor and Boys on the foundation, are irregular buildings, the work of different times: the entrance into them appears very ancient, and from the arches and columns remaining, is probably a work of the *Sarons*; on the right hand of this entrance, is a statue of one of the Hospital Boys, in his Gown, &c. † The Boys are carefully looked after, and provided with food, cloathing and lodging, are educated in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and at a proper age, a premium of 5*l.* is given for binding them apprentices to different trades. Besides the Governor's House, there is a good House and School for the Writing Master, who has an annual salary with the privilege of instructing more Scholars, than those on the foundation; the Governor, Master of the Grammar School, and Writing Master, have gardens belonging to their respective houses; and in that part which is termed *Dr. Vilwayne's* building, there is a capacious committee room for the Trustees, in which are large tablets, containing the different Benefactions to this Charity. The present House Governor, is *George Hayman*, and the Writing Master, *Edward Pye*.

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In

\* Divine Service is regularly performed in this Chapel, twice every Sunday, by the Master of the Grammar School, who has the farming out the Seats (except those appropriated to the use of the Hospital,) for his emolument.

† It is related, that this statue was designed to represent *George Wal'*, a boy upon the foundation, remarkable for his good behaviour, and attachment to learning: there is still G. W. to be seen on the inside of his Cap.

## CHAP. VI.

Bampfylde  
House.

In *Bampfylde-lane*, in this Parish, is an ancient house, which has for many ages been in the possession of the most respectable Family of the *Bampfylde's* of *Poltimore*, as an occasional residence, when County business, or pleasure, called them to *Exeter*: it belongs at present, to *Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde*, Bart. one of the Representatives in Parliament, for this City: this House though not very large, has several good rooms neatly furnished, and in the Lobby, is a curious antique chimney-piece, in the centre, or Umbo, of whose entablature, is a statue of the Royal Martyr, King *Charles 1st.* in complete armour, mounted on a Charger, and holding a Truncheon in his right hand; on each side of this statue, instead of Pilasters, are the statues of Peace and Plenty, and on the outer side of these, are two grotesque statues of a Cavalier and Puritan, clothed in the habits of the times; the whole of the figures, with the other embellishments, are in good preservation, and neatly executed in alto relievo; they were designed and placed here, by *Sir Amias Bampfylde*, soon after the restoration.

In the Window of the Lobby, are several armorial bearings in stained Glass, with inscriptions round them, relating to the intermarriages of the Family: from the style of the characters, these paintings appear to have been executed in the fourteenth century.

New Meeting-house.

The old Gaol for the County of Devon, stood partly in this Parish; the scite of which, is now occupied by a Dissenting Meeting-house, which is a capacious, good building, and has a large congregation belonging to it; the interior part is very neat, and well seated, and the design does great credit to the architect; adjoining it, is a small burying ground.

At the corner of *Castle-street*, stood an ancient edifice, (late-ly rebuilt,) formerly the *Castle Tavern*, which according to tradition, was for many years the dwelling-house of the governor of the Castle; from its architecture, it appeared to be rebuilt in the 14th Century, on the ruins of another building, of more ancient date, which was supported by semicircular arches, † filled up with rough masonry: (probably the remains of some cloisters,) underneath were large stone vaults, and an arched doorway that led to a subterranean Cavern, walled up and filled with rubbish; in all probability, communicated with the Castle. In the house was a decent Chapel, with a vaulted roof quite entire, till the late alterations.

In *Musgraves Alley* (formerly *Trinity-lane*,) was a small religious

† One of the arches is still remaining in an adjoining tenement, behind the new building.

religious foundation, dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, containing a House and Chapel for two Priests, which in the year 1445, were converted by the Dean and Chapter, into a Grammar School, for instructing youth in the Classical languages, and 20*l.* per annum settled upon the Master: This School, in the year 1561, was rebuilt by a voluntary contribution of the Citizens, and the nomination of the Master conferred on the Chamber, by *Bishop Cotton*: about the year 1740, it was united by consent of the Trustees, to the Free Grammar School in *St. John's Hospital*, and is now again converted into a Chapel, by the followers of *Mr. John Wesley*, who have decently fitted it up, and erected a gallery; they have a large congregation.

Methodist  
Meeting-  
house.

In this Parish, according to the last survey, there were 78 houses, 4 of which were uninhabited, containing 123 families, consisting of 228 Males, and 320 Females, in all 548 Inhabitants.

Adjoining *St. Lawrence's* is the Precinct of *Bradninch*, in old writings called *Braines*.

Precinct of  
Bradninch.

This small district, which is part of the ancient Glacis of the Castle, is the Land of the *Prince of Wales*, (as *Duke of Cornwall*,) and held as such by Leases, granted from that Dutchy Court.

The part most commonly termed *Bradninch*, consists of genteel houses, near the City walls, built on an elevated situation; they have good Gardens, and a pleasant prospect to the South and West; and from its not being a thoroughfare, it is very retired, enjoying all the peace of a country village, in the midst of an opulent City. In this district, are the neat house and gardens of *Edmund Granger*, Esq. the gardens (part of the Castle fosse,) are beautifully laid out, and planted with forest and other trees, the design of the late ingenious *Mr. John Patch* of this City, Surgeon, who built the house: the present possessor has greatly improved the house and gardens, which are justly admired, and deserve the attention of all visitors.

The district contains but 8 houses, one of which on the late survey, was uninhabited, there were but 7 families, comprising 6 Males, and 26 Females, total 32 Inhabitants.

North East of *St. Lawrence's*, (without the City walls,) is the extensive Parish of *St. Sidwells*. The Church of which is a regular *Gothic* edifice, consisting of a Nave, two aisles, a chancel, and two galleries, spacious enough to contain a numerous congregation: these galleries were this present year, 1804, greatly enlarged, and rebuilt in a semicircular form; in the centre part of which, an elegant organ is erected, purchased at the expence of the Parishioners and Fcoffees.

St. Sidwells.

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The

CHAP VI.

The roof is vaulted, and supported by eight *Gothic* pillars, which have remarkable capitals, each consisting of four demi-Angels, supporting shields on their breasts, between each Angel is a small nich, containing a statue.

The Pulpit † is a neat piece of workmanship; on the pannels are carved, in basso relievo, the four Evangelists, &c. and on the top of the baldequin, is the gilt statue of an Angel, sounding a trumpet; the Pulpit-cloth and Cushion, as well as those of the Reading-desk, are of crimson Velvet, with gold fringe and tassels, (the gift of *Thomas Strong* of this Parish, brick-maker;) In the centre of the Nave is a large brass Chandelier, (presented by the Parishioners, about the year 1780.) The Font is very ancient, and, by its ornaments, appears to be of *Saxon* construction.

The Chancel is separated from the Nave, by a *Gothic* screen, which, in the papal times, supported a Rood loft; this screen has lately been new painted and gilt; the Altar-piece, (which was newly erected in the year 1801,) is composed of marble pannels, on which are engraven the decalogue, &c. the letters gilt.

In the Windows are still some remains of painted glass, (the vestiges of their ancient beauty;) among which are the arms of King *Edward* the Confessor, and some other armorial bearings. § When a Church was first erected on this spot, is not known; but as it is mentioned soon after the *Norman* conquest, it is very probable that a religious structure stood there during the *Saxon* era; for in dooms-day book, it is recorded with the Parish, as part of the possessions belonging to the Church of *Exeter*; and in the year 1222, it is mentioned as being one of the Parochial Churches then in this City; but the present edifice is of much later date, and from the arms of the *Courtenays* (Earls of *Devon*,) carved on one of the blocks of the Roof, probably the date of its erection, might be about the latter end of the thirteenth century, as it much resembles the architecture of that period: adjoining the Church is a small Chapel, now used as a Vestry. The ancient Tower was much ruined during the rebellion of the commons, anno 1549, when both it and the Church, were converted into a prison for the Royalists, and in the year 1659, it was rebuilt by the contribution of the Citizens at large: this Tower is lofty,

† This Pulpit is constructed on the model of that in the Nave of the Cathedral, but is much inferior in size and excellence of workmanship.

§ It would be a great ornament to the Church, if the coats of arms, and other remains of the painted glass, were collected, replaced, and properly arranged in the Window over the Altar, similar to those newly done in the Cathedral.

lofty, and of a reddish stone; it has a projecting staircase, and strong buttresses: at one corner there is a small spire supporting a gilt weathercock, which formerly graced the spire on the Cathedral; at the other corners are pinnacles; it has a fine peal of eight bells, which were re-cast about the year 1770.\*

There was a set of Chimes belonging to this Tower, but being often out of repair, and occasioning great expences, they were taken down; the barrel is still remaining under the Belfry. The Tower has a good Clock and Dial.

This living is an impropriation belonging to the Dean and Chapter, who are also Lords of the Manor, and hold a Court leet within the same; at this Court, Stewards appoint annual Ale-Tasters, and Manor-Constables.

Great disputes have oftentimes occurred between them, and the Mayor and Citizens, concerning their different prerogatives and liberties; and this Church being only a daughter Church to that of *Heavitree*, the Vicar of that Parish appoints his Curate to serve this Church; the *Rev. James Newcombe*, B. A. Dean's Vicar, and one of the Priest Vicars of the Cathedral, has the present Cure.

The monumental inscriptions in this Church are but few, the following are the only ones worth preserving.

In the North aisle is one of variegated marble, representing a large Urn, standing upon an Altar, over which are the arms of *Cheeke* impaled with other coats, and on the front of the Altar is this inscription:

*Sacred to the Memory of Phineas Cheeke, Esq. who died the 7th of October, 1753, and lies interred near his Ancestors, in the South Aisle of this Church, aged 80.*

In the Chancel is interred the body of *Hugh Grove, Esq.* a Gentleman of Wiltshire; who in the year 1655, with several others, taking up arms for the restoration of their Lawful Sovereign King *Charles the 2d.* were defeated at *South Molton*, taken prisoners, and brought to this City, where they were tried, and condemned by the then ruling Democracy; and two of them, viz. *Hugh Grove*, and *John Penruddock, Esqrs.* were beheaded on the 16th of May 1655, in *Exeter Castle*; and three days after, *Mr. Grove's* friends had licence to inter his body in this Church; on his grave-stone is a brass plate with this inscription: †

*Hic*

\* There is a tradition, that three of these bells formerly belonged to *Allhallows on the walls*, and that on its demolition, they were taken down by order of the Republican Governor of this City, in order to be converted into Cannon; but the Inhabitants of *St. Sidwells*, having intelligence of this, privately by night, conveyed them away; *George Cheeke* of *St. Sidwells*, Brewer, lent them his Cart and Horses for that purpose.

† This Plate being much worn, was lately supplied by a new one, and the inscription copied verbatim.



**CHAP. VI.** *Hic jacet Hugo Grove de Enford, in Comitatu Wilts Armiger, in Restituendo ecclesiam, in asserendo regem; in propugnando legem, et libertatem Anglicanam, captus et decollatus, 16 May, 1655.*

It appears that this Plate was replaced 16th May, 1788.

On a plain Tablet fixed in the Chancel wall, is this inscription:

*In Memory of Elizabeth Turner, Wife of Thomas Turner, Great-Grandchild of the Earl of Huntingdon, who died ——— 1705, and lies buried underneath.*

The benefactions given to this Church and Parish, are numerous, of which the following are the principal.

*Sir John Ackland, of Columb-John, Knight, by his Will dated September 14th, 1609, gave to the poor of this Parish, one dozen of Bread weekly, for ever. ‡*

The Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, having for many years, paid to the poor of this Parish, eight shillings weekly, and discontinuing the same for upwards of 30 years, a Commission was issued forth upon the statute of charitable uses, in 1630, to enquire into the original ground of this charity, which was executed at the Guildhall, before the *Rev. Joseph Hall*, Bishop of this Diocese, and several other persons of quality; the matter was much controverted, some pleading it as a matter of right, others only a voluntary act. At length on March 17th, 1631, an Inquisition was found for the poor, and a decree made, signed by nine of the Commissioners, and returned to the Court of Chancery: this being objected to by four of the Commissioners, fresh Commissions were issued, and the cause was heard before *Thomas Lord Coventry*, Lord Keeper of the great Seal, by whom it was decreed, that the said eight shillings weekly, amounting to 20*l.* 16*s.* per annum, should for ever be paid to the poor of the said Parish of *St. Sidwells*, and that the sum of 572*l.* for 28 years arrears of that payment, due, should be paid at two instalments to the Guardians of the Poor, for the use of the Poor of the said Parish; which said sum was accordingly paid: but 151*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* being expended in the prosecution of this suit, only 420*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* remained clear for the use of the Poor.

*James Tucker, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by his Will, dated June, 1643, bequeathed to the Chamber, 100*l.* to be bestowed in Land, and the profits arising, to be for ever appropriated towards the curing the lame, and relieving the sick and needy, (especially such as shall by accident break their limbs) of the Parish of *St. Sidwells*.*

*Thomas*

‡ See Parish of *St. Lawrence*.

*Thomas Tasker*, (of this City, Brewer,) gave to the Poor of CHAP. VI. this Parish, an annuity of 20s. yearly, to be for ever issuable out of a field called *Job's Park*; and in case of nonpayment of the same, the Churchwardens and Overseers shall have power to enter and distrain for the same, until satisfaction shall be made.

*Ralph Herman*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by his Will dated July 25th, 1661, gave to the Wardens of this Parish, an annuity or Rent-charge of 2l. 12s. yearly, for the purchasing one dozen of bread weekly, which said bread is to be delivered to twelve poor inhabitants of this Parish, every Sunday, after forenoon service. The said *Ralph Herman* (besides his former donation of 52 shillings yearly,) gave to the Mayor and Chamber, in trust, 400l. to be laid out in the purchase of Lands, the Rents of which were to be for ever employed towards the relief of poor people of the said City, and Parish of *St. Sidwells*.

*Mrs. Esther Bussell*, by her last Will, bequeathed an annuity of 20 shillings yearly, for ever, to be laid out in six shifts, which said shifts were to be annually given on Christmas day, to six poor women of this Parish, who did not receive Parochial relief.

*Thomas Bussell*, (son of the aforesaid *Esther Bussell*,) likewise gave an annuity of 20 shillings yearly, for ever, to be laid out in six shirts, annually, to be given to six poor men, inhabitants of the said Parish, on *St. Stephen's* day.

*John Cheeke*, (of this City, Merchant,) gave one dozen of bread, to be for ever distributed weekly, to the poor of this Parish.

*Christopher Sandford*, Merchant, gave to the Churchwardens and Overseers of this Parish, an annuity or Rent-charge, of 6l. per annum, to be for ever payable out of those Fields called *Summer Lands*, lying near the Workhouse, which said annuity is for ever to be appropriated towards the binding out two or more boys, natives of this Parish, apprentices.

*Mrs. Ann Baker*, of this City, gave an annuity of 50 shillings, issuing out of the same Lands, to be distributed yearly, by the Minister, Churchwardens and Overseers, the thursday in Easter week, to the Poor of the said Parish.

*John Moffatt*, by Will dated November 23d, 1717, gave unto *John Osmond*, and others in trust, 100l. to be laid out by them in the purchase of a Field or Fields, and the rents thereof to be distributed annually to ten poor Housekeepers, (not receiving alms,) on the 29th day of September.

*Thomas Smaltridge*, by Will dated October 21st, 1719, charged all his Lands with an annuity of 1l. 5s. for the purchasing of six new Shirts or Shifts, to be distributed to six poor persons,

CHAP VI. persons, inhabitants of the said Parish, who have no other relief, at the choice of the Wardens and Overseers : the money to be paid and laid out yearly for ever, on Christmas-day, or as soon after as possible.

The *Rev. John Newte* of *Tiverton*, by Will, gave to the Rector, Vicar, or Curate of this Parish, and to their successors for ever, the Moiety of two Fields, situate in *Mary Broom Lane* in the said Parish, to the intent that the Rents thereof, be for ever yearly disposed by him or them in the purchase of Bibles, the whole Duty of Man, and *Nelson's* practice of piety ; which said books were to be annually distributed to the poor of this Parish, on or about Christmas Day, as the means of increasing true Religion and Devotion.

*Lawrence Seldon*, Esq. gave to the Poor of this Parish, an annuity of 2*l.* 12*s.* yearly, one Shilling of which, was to be distributed weekly in Bread, after Morning Service, every Sunday.

The Church is dedicated to *St. Sidwella*, (Sister to *St. Juthwara*,) who was martyr'd and buried near this Church, afterwards canonized, and much esteemed for her sanctity. *William* of *Worcester* has this record of her :

" *Sancta Satiwola, virgo Canonizata, jacet in Ecclesia sancta satiwolæ civitatis Exoniæ ultra portam orientalem.*"

This *St. Sidwella* lived about the year 740, and near the Church is an ancient well supplied by a fine spring, named *St. Sids-well*, near which, according to tradition, she lived a recluse life.

At the upper end of *St. Sidwells-street*, is an ancient Chapel and Almshouse, dedicated to *St. Ann*, these houses are under the patronage of the Deau and Chapter ; and are eight in number, each consisting of two small rooms and a garden plat. Notwithstanding they have had several bequests, since their foundation, they are but meanly endowed : the stipends of the poor inhabitants not amounting to seven-pence weekly. There was formerly a Hermitage annexed to this Chapel, but the date of the foundation of this small religious structure is now lost. The Chapel with the adjoining House, (formerly the habitation of the Priest,) appear of an ancient date ; the Chapel is very small, but has been beautifully ornamented in the Gothic style ; over the brackets which supported the Altar, are two Gothic niches of neat workmanship, and there are some remains of painted Glass in the Window, it is now desecrated, without seats or ornaments, filthily kept, and sometimes used as a Mortar-house ; over the Chapel is a small turreted arch, formerly the receptacle of its only Bell. §

After

§ The ringing of this Bell was formerly the signal given for assembling

After the general dissolution, this House was purchased CHAP. VI.  
by *Oliver* and *George Manwaring*, brothers and inhabitants of this City, who about the year 1561, repaired it, added to its buildings, and converted it into an Almshouse for eight poor people, committing the patronage thereof to the Dean and Chapter, and their successors.

During the intestine troubles in the reign of *Charles 1st*, the dignified Clergy being deprived of their benefices, it consequently lost its patrons, and when the City was straitened by the Royalists, this Chapel, &c. was seized by a small party of them detached from the Garrison of *Poltimore House*, who took post there, which they maintained, and greatly annoyed the Parliament's Garrison in the City, until its surrender to *Prince Maurice*; by this means the buildings were greatly ruined, and continued in that state until the Restoration, when it was again repaired, and the Almspeople replaced by the Dean and Chapter.

The following benefactions have been given to this Almshouse, viz.

*Ralph Duckenfield*, of this City, Gent. by Will dated 1576, bequeathed a tenement (situate in *Preston-street* in this City,) towards the poor of the said houses, but the original deed having been embezzled in the troubles (before mentioned,) the poor were deprived thereof.

About the year 1617, *Ann*, Widow of *Francis Debina*, M. D. and afterwards Wife of *Christopher Manwaring*, Esq. gave the feesimple and inheritance of a Meadow and Tenement, situate near *Taddiford Bridge*, in the Parish of *St. David*; this bequest was for many years concealed, and the poor deprived of it, but being at length recovered by a Decree of Chancery, May 7th, 1665, the rents were decreed to be for ever paid for the better maintenance of the poor of these houses.

In this Parish are likewise four other Almshouses, founded by *John Webb*, (for four poor Widows, inhabitants of the said Parish,) who endowed them with the rents and profits of four small Fields, for ever: for which purpose he appointed certain Trustees, respectable inhabitants of the said Parish, who after his decease, were to have the sole management of this charity, and appointment of the Almswomen therein; and after the death of one or more of the Trustees, the survivors were to appoint others in their room.

These houses are gloomy habitations, consisting of only  
X x
one

the Grecians, (as the Inhabitants of the Parish are ludicrously termed,) who frequently proceeded to riotous acts; it was taken down some years since; by order of the Chapter, and lodged in the Chapter house, where it at present remains.

CHAP. VI. one room each, with a small garden behind; their weekly stipend is both small and uncertain, as all the necessary repairs of the houses are discharged from the income of their small Estate; in the front is a small tablet, on which is this inscription: *Webb's Almshouses, repaired in 1730.*

In a brick ground, adjoining *Well-lane*, some years since were discovered several Urns, (containing human ashes, as supposed,) they were of very coarse workmanship, and bedded very deep in the clay; one of these Urns is now in the possession of *Nicholas Strong*, Gardener. And in another brick field, near *St. Ann's Chapel*, a small patera, of a regular circular figure, with a foot neatly turned, was found at the depth of twelve feet, in a solid bed of clay, which to all appearance, had never been broken into: this patera is made of a beautiful red earth or clay, of excellent workmanship, and had been highly glazed, some part of which is still remaining; it is now in the possession of *James Wescombe*, Brickmaker.

In *Paris-street*, is an ancient brick house, bequeathed by *Phineas Cheeke*, Esq. to certain Trustees, to the intent, that an Academy should be there instituted, for the education of young Gentlemen for the ministry, among Protestant Dissenters, and other learned Professions, as well as for civil and commercial life. The Tutors were the *Rev. Mic. Towgood*, *Samuel Merivale*, *John Turner* and *John Hogg*. After this institution had existed about ten years, it sustained a great loss by the death of *Mr. Turner*, who read Lectures in Mathematics, and natural Philosophy, and at length totally sunk under the loss of *Mr. Merivale*, the Divinity Tutor. Soon after, a School for the instruction of poor Children, was established in its place; this School by the care of the Trustees, and liberal contributions of the Dissenters in general, has succeeded beyond expectation, and this present time, upwards of 100 children, of both Sexes, are cloathed, and educated in such useful branches of literature, as are sufficient to qualify them for the middling paths of life. And such are the philanthropic dispositions of the Trustees of this excellent institution, that no exception is made to the religious tenets of the parents, but Children of all christian persuasions are admitted, which is a great benefit to rising generations, and to the promoting of piety and Christian virtue.

St. Catharine's Chapel.

At the lower end of *Paris-street*, just as you ascend the hill towards *Heavitree*, there formerly stood (according to tradition,) an ancient Chapel, dedicated to *St. Catharine*, of which not the least vestige is now remaining, except in the name of an adjoining well, supplied by a fine spring, that issues from under the garden wall, and which in ancient writings is termed *St. Catharine's Well*.

Beyond

Beyond this is the Workhouse for the City and County; a large capacious building, situate on an airy, healthy eminence: this house having been already described in the historical part, it would be unnecessary to say more of it.

CHAP. VI.

The Workhouse.

At the lower end of *Longbrooke-street*, is a small village, partly in this Parish, and partly in *St. David's*; in this hamlet are several genteel houses, with good gardens, in a pleasant, retired situation, free from the noise and smoke of the City, yet almost contiguous to it; this place is termed *Hill's Court*, from a knightly Family of that name, who formerly had a spacious mansion here, and in which they lived with great splendour; it was long the residence of *Sir John Hill*, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench; but it has long since changed its owners, and no vestige of the ancient house is now remaining.

Hill's Court.

From this place there is an easy ascent to the top of the hill, now called *Mary Pole head*, \* where there is a stone fixed, as a boundary to the County of the City of *Exeter*; this stone is evidently sepulchral, but from whence it was brought is not known; on it are the following remains of an inscription:

Mary Pole head.

M<sup>o</sup>. CCCCXI QUORUM MAJES.

As you ascend this Hill, a beautiful prospect opens to the view of part of the City, the Castle hill clothed with wood, the Barracks, the Estuary of the River *Ere*, from *Topsham* to *Ermouth*, and far beyond the Bar and its mouth; the fine cultivated country interspersed with Woods, Villages, Gentlemen's seats, &c. between the City, and the heights of *Haldon*, *Penhill*, &c. At a great distance, the bleak hills of *Dartmoor*, and *Haytor rocks*. After a small descent, you again ascend to the heights of *Stoke Hill*, from the top of which, there is a semicircular prospect, extending in some places, as far as the eye can reach; to the North East, as far as the Vale of *Taunton Dean*, in *Somersetshire*; to the East, beyond *Honiton*; to the South and West, the Sea from *Portland* almost to the

Stoke Hill.

X x 2

entrance

\* From whence this Hill obtained its name of *Mary Pole head*, at this distance of time, can only be conjectural; there is a great probability, that here was formerly a Chapel, dedicated to one of the *Martyrs*, which from its elevated situation, being visible a great way, to the surrounding country, obtained the name of *Mary's Pole*, (an ancient name for head,) and the additional tautology of head, was added by the ignorant in after ages; what leads further to strengthen this conjecture is, that the road leading to this place from the *Tiverton* road, is called in old writing *Mary Bow-lane*, which probably alludes to some religious edifice, situated in this lane, and built on stone arches, as it is well known that the Church of *St Mary le Bow*, in *London*, obtained the additional epithet, from its being built on stone arches; however, there is no vestige remaining, of any building of this kind.

**CHAP. VI.** entrance of *Tor Bay*, with the intervening country, (esteemed the Garden of *Devonshire*,) and to the North West and North, the hills of *Dartmoor*, the Vale of *Crediton*, and the mountainous tract, which divides the County of *Devon* into two parts, (the *Jugum Ocrinum* of *Ptolemy*, and other ancient authors;) a little further on, a Landscape opens to your view, that can scarcely be excelled; *Pine's House* and *Park*, (the seat of *Sir Stafford Henry Northcote*, Bart.) the beautiful Valley beneath your eye, interspersed with arable and meadow Lands, Woods, Villages, Churches, Farms, &c. with the Rivers *Exe* and *Culm*, gliding in meanders, and joining their streams; this prospect almost exceeds description.

Ancient  
Camp on  
Stoke Hill.

Near this, on the summit of another hill, is an ancient entrenchment, the fosse in some places near twelve feet deep, and quite entire, as well as the graffe in some parts: this work is of a semicircular figure, 256 paces in diameter, inclosing the whole summit, and contains about five acres of Land; without this entrenchment, at the distance of about forty paces, are the remains of another fosse, which surrounded it at an equal distance, except the side next the River, where it trended down the declivity, home to the River's bank.

There are adjoining hills more elevated than this, but probably, its constructors made choice of this spot from its vicinity to the River, for which reason, the outer Ditch was extended to the River, to cover the waters.

We have no accounts to elucidate who were the first constructors of this Fortification; by some it has been attributed to the *Romans*; but their Camps were generally of a square form, and its vicinity to their chief Fortress in *Exeter*, makes it improbable that they should construct another so near it. It might with more probability be ascribed to the *Britons*, whose Camps were generally of a circular form, situate on the summit of a hill, and surrounded with almost impenetrable Woods; with which, there can be no doubt, but that all those hills before their being cleared for cultivation, were clothed; as *Stoke Wood* and others are still remaining; probably its antiquity might be dated as far back as the invasion of the *Belge* under the command of *Divitiacus*, (upwards of 200 years before the landing of *Julius Cæsar*,) who penetrated into the heart of the *Damnonian* kingdom, and forced numbers of the inhabitants to seek for shelter in *Ireland*. In answer to this, an objection might be made from its present, name, *Bury Park*, which is evidently derived from the Saxons *Burgh* † (signifying a camp or settlement,) or from *Buryg*, a town; but it was common for those last invaders, to take possession

† From whence is derived the present English term, Borough.

possession of the Fortresses of the natives, and to give a cognomen to them according to their language CHAP. VI.

Their successors, the *Danes* followed their example in possessing and maintaining themselves in the strong holds of the *English*, and there is great reason to suppose, that they took refuge here after their defeat at *Pinhoe*, in its vicinity. ‡

Not far from this intrenchment, at the bottom of *Mary Bow-lane*, where the ancient Road crosses the present Turnpike, are two large stones, laying by the side of each other; they consist of moor stone, (or *Devonshire Granite*.) and by their regular symmetry and oblong shape, seem to have been nicely hewn; but for what purpose cannot now be determined; they at present serve as a boundary mark between the County of *Devon*, and that of the City of *Exeter*; but it does not seem probable, that this was the original intention, from their large size, and their non-similarity to any of the other City bound-Stones, which evidently were all taken from the ruins of religious Edifices; (the City of *Exeter* being made a County of itself after their dissolution,) besides there being two of them in one place, a circumstance very uncommon; as the bringing stones of such magnitude from *Dartmoor*, (or its environs,) must require much labour, and consequently great expence, when one of them would have answered every necessary purpose, as a boundary mark; The largest of these stones is 5 feet 8 inches in length, 2 feet 11 inches broad, and 2 feet 5 inches thick; the other measures in length 5 feet 6 inches, in breadth 3 feet 1 inch, and in depth 1 foot 1 inch; according to tradition, a cross stood on this spot, from whence the adjoining lane obtained the name of *Cross-lane*; but an observer may evidently determine that these stones were never any part of a Cross, nor of the base of one, as there is no cavity to receive or support the shaft, so common in the erection of those structures. §

Adjoining

‡ The neighbouring Cottagers, informed the Author, that many bricks had been dug up in this Fosse, and that they were thicker and wider than those made now: they were of a coarse brown mould, and very hard; that bricks were well known to the ancient Britons, is not to be doubted. The very name of *Brike* being truly *British*, which they very probably brought with them at their first emigration. “*At Babel they had Bricks for Stones, &c.*”

§ The late learned and Rev. Dr. *Jeremiah Mills*, Dean of *Exeter*, and President of the *Royal Antiquarian Society*, on an inspection of these Stones, was of opinion that they were Sepulchral, and of Druidical erection, as it was customary with the ancient Britons, to erect one or more large Stones, over the graves of Princes, and men of note amongst them. They likewise had a custom of covering the graves of Heroes with heaps of stones, which they termed *Karns*. Many of their Sepulchral monuments in *Wales*, *Cornwall*, &c. which are composed of five Stones in the form



## CHAP. VI.

New Circus  
in the  
Barn Field.

Adjoining to *Southernhay*, in this Parish, in part of the Fields formerly termed *St. John's Fields*, (but of late years, the *Barn Field*,) there is at this present time, a stately pile of buildings erecting in the form of a Crescent; the houses are of brick, on a gravelly soil, and in a healthy air; commanding a beautiful prospect of the neighbouring Country; five Houses are already constructed and inhabited, and the whole, when finished, will scarcely be excelled by any pile of brick buildings in the Kingdom, even in the Capital itself.

A Bath discovered.

In digging a drain behind these buildings, the labourers discovered a Bath, which was supplied with water from a neighbouring spring; this Bath was of an angular shape, built with grey bricks, very hard burnt, and strongly cemented together; the steps which led down to it, were of the same materials: no account could be obtained, or conjecture formed, by whom, or at what time, this Bath was made; but from appearance, it did not seem to be of a very ancient date.

This discovery suggested to the Architect, the utility of erecting a Public Bath, the want of which had been long complained of, and accordingly, on this spot abounding in fine springs, and being very eligible for the purpose, a handsome and very commodious one is now erected, with every conveniency for the inhabitants.

This Parish, although it has decreased in Population,\* has been greatly improved, and is still improving in its buildings, which seems a Paradox, yet it is easily accounted for; the old Cottages which have been taken down, were very numerous, and lodged a great number of Weavers and other poor Manufacturers, who for the sake of easy rents, crowded themselves together; and in the room of several Cottages,  
large

of a chest, two forming the sides, one the top, (or covering stone,) and two smaller, the ends, in the vacuum of which they deposited the bones, ashes, &c. of the defunct; and often offered sacrifices on the top to their manes; this monument they termed a *Kistvaen*, and the above-mentioned judicious antiquarian, had great reason to think, that these stones, from their similarity to those which he had seen composing such monuments, were parts of a *Kistvaen*; and that the other stones had been carried off for some particular uses; there is a tradition, which is firmly believed by old women, &c. and by them transmitted to their descendants; that a Giant of immense bulk and strength was buried in this spot, and as it is well known, that Fables are often blended with true History, in traditions of this kind; there is great probability that these stones marked the spot of interment of some *British Chief*, as it was customary with all the Northern nations, to describe their ancient Leaders and Heroes, as men of great strength and stature; see the *Edda*, *Ossian*, and Dr. *Piercy's* collection of ancient English Poetry.

\* The Author is credibly informed, that by the late returns, the Inhabitants of this Parish are reduced in number upwards of 500 less than they were in the year 1780.

large spacious mansions have been erected, which notwithstanding they make a splendid appearance, do not contain half the number of useful inhabitants; and should this spirit of improvement continue, the poor Manufacturers (so necessary to the trade of the City, and to the comforts and conveniences of the rich,) will be greatly distressed for habitations, unless some worthy Gentlemen will stand forth in their favour, and erect small convenient Cottages at easy rents, in the back Streets, where there is room sufficient.

According to the returns made by order of Government, in the year 1801, there were then in this Parish, 473 Houses, (of which 23 were uninhabited; occupied by 689 Families, containing 1072 Males, and 1635 Females, in all 2706 Inhabitants.

Before I proceed to give an account of the remainder of the *St. David's* Parishes within the City walls, I shall describe that of *St. David*, being contiguous to *St. Sidwells*, and like it, a daughter Church dependant on that of *Heavitree*, whose Vicar appoints the Curate of the Parish, which is of large extent, being nearly two miles in length, comprising within its bounds, great part of the County of the City of *Exeter*.

The Church which is situated on the summit of a hill, (called in ancient records, *St. David's Dune*,†) is small and irregular, consisting of a Nave and one Aisle, without a Chancel; the Communion Table being situated in the eastern angle of the Nave. The whole of the building is remarkably low, as is the Tower, which is square, containing four small untunable bells: the Church is light, well seated, and kept in good repair. The present edifice cannot lay claim to great antiquity, as it was built in the fifteenth century. The ancient Church, (or Parochial Chapel dedicated to *St. Clement*,) was situate at the bottom of the hill, in a Meadow washed by the River, which being subject to floods, and incommodious to the Parishioners, they erected the present Church: of this ancient Chapel, which was probably erected during the *Saxon* era, and is mentioned in *Dooms-day book*, there is not the least vestige remaining, except in the name of the meadow, which is called *Chapel Meadow*,‡ as is the lane leading to it called *Chapel-lane*.

Situation of  
the ancient  
Church.

In the present Church, is a commodious Gallery, the Pulpit is neat, and similar to that in *St. Sidwells*, it seems to be the workmanship of the same artist: around the Church is a small

† So termed from the *British Dunum*, signifying a hill, or elevated situation.

‡ This Meadow has long since been alienated from the Parish, and is now the property (by gift,) of the Parish of *St. Petrock*, in this City.

CHAP. VI. small cemetery, which was enlarged in the year 1800, and the additional part consecrated by *Bishop Courtenay*, in the following year.

Against the North wall, is a mural monument, painted and gilt, to the memory of *Sir Thomas Gifford*, "*equitis aurati hujus civitatis iterum prætoris*," who died in 1703; according to tradition, this *Mr. Gifford* was knighted for his ingenuity in dying a piece of Cloth scarlet on one side, and blue on the other, which he presented to King *James 2d*, he built *Great Dunsyde House*, where he died.

In an obscure corner of the Yard, behind the Church, is interred the body of the late *Dr. Glass*, of *Exeter*, whose professional skill, eminent learning, and amiable disposition, justly acquired the esteem of all his numerous acquaintance; on the covering stone of his plain tomb, is this short memorial:

*Thomas Glass, M. D. who died on the 5th of February, 1786, in the 76th year of his age.*

*Thomas Tooker*, of this City, Brewer, bequeathed an annuity of Twenty Shillings yearly, to be for ever distributed to the poor of this Parish. §

*John Jordan*, Gent, of *Millbrook*, by Will, gave the sum of 100*l.* to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of this Parish, to be by them vested in the public Funds; the interest of which to be laid out in bread, and distributed by them and their successors, twice every year, viz. one half on *December 25th*, and the other half on *June 2d*, from year to year for ever, to such poor people, (inhabitants of the Parish,) as they shall think fit and proper objects; the first interest was received in 1768.

St. David's  
Hill.

The street, termed *St. David's hill*, has many good houses, pleasantly situate in a healthy air, and commanding an extensive prospect of the surrounding country; this hill terminates on the South West side, in a lofty abrupt cliff that overhangs the river; this cliff is near 100 feet high, and beneath it, are

HeadWear.

two strong stone wears, which turn the river into different leats, on which is situated the engine that supplies the City with water, many Fulling, Grist, and other Mills, Dye houses, &c. a great accommodation to Woollen and other Manufacturers; the walk between the River and Leat, is not above six feet in breadth, and when the River is swelled by Floods is awfully grand; the great expanse of water foaming over the Wears on the left hand, the lofty Cliff clothed with wood, (which is only separated from you by the Leat) on the right, and the beautiful prospect in front, of the bason of the river

§ See Benefactions to the Parish of *St. Sidwell*, &c.

river, with the adjoining meadows, excite a sensation in CHAP VI.  
strangers that cannot be described. \*

*Duryard* is the name of several Houses and Estates in this Parish, which name was probably derived from the *British Dwr* (water,) as they are situate at no great distance from the River, and there can be no doubt but that the course of the ancient channel was much nearer than at present; the largest of those houses, is an elegant Villa, on an elevated situation, surrounded with pleasure grounds and well wooded; it was erected by the before-mentioned *Sir Thomas Gifford*, Knight, and is now the property of *Richard Cross*, Esq.

Duryard.

Near this House, were formerly Mills, supplied with water by a Leat cut from the River above *Cowley Bridge*; these Mills were erected before 1463, as appears from an ordinance made by the Mayor and Common Council, in that year, to compel all Bakers (residing in the City,) to grind their wheat at the City Mills, viz. *Duryard* and *Cricklepit*: these Mills have long been neglected, and thus fell to ruin; but a Manufactory has been lately erected on their scite, for spinning Woollen yarn, by Machinery.

Duryard Mills.

The next adjoining Estate is styled *Middle Duryard*; it consists of a small neat brick House, with a fine Estate, well wooded, belonging to it, and is now the property of *Mrs. Cross*, widow of *George Cross*, Esq. who resides in it.

Middle Duryard.

*Little Duryard* adjoins this, on which has lately been built a neat Villa, and great improvements made to the Estate belonging to it.

Little Duryard.

Nearer the City, on a very elevated situation, is *Duryard Lodge*; this House enjoys a fine prospect, with large plantations of Trees behind it, which screen it from the North East Winds; it was built by *Phineas Cheeke*, Esq. (a native of this City,) who long enjoyed a lucrative place in the Stamp Office, London; from which circumstance it obtained the name (by which it is vulgarly called,) of *Mount Stamp*.

Duryard Lodge.

Above *Great Duryard*, on the side of *Stoke Hill*, is *Belle Vue*, a pretty Villa, in a delightful situation, it was originally, a small Farm house, and modernized into its present state by its owner, *Richard Cross*, Esq. †

Belle Vue.

Y y

The

\* Several remains of antiquities have been discovered, in digging on part of this Cliff, such as bones of Oxen and other Beasts, broken potsherds, and a brazen Lamp with a Crescent described on it, from which some have conjectured, that here once stood a Temple of the Goddess *Diana*.

† In a Field adjoining this House, (about a furlong from the Camp already described,) are two Moorstones, standing erect, about 60 paces from each other: they appear to have been hewn to an inclining plane, and are five feet 10 inches in height, above ground, and deeply sunk in-

## CHAP. VI.

Northern-  
hay.

The justly admired terrace walk of *Northernhay*, is in this Parish; it is of a circular figure, and extends almost round one quarter of the City, from the scite of the East, to the North gate; it was anciently a counterscarp to the Castle, and is planted with lofty Elms, well gravelled, and kept in repair by the Chamber; it is much resorted to for the benefit of its fine air, and agreeable shade; many seats are erected on it for the use of valetudinarians; it is bordered on one side by the remains of the Castle, and the back front of the new County Court, (from the latter of which it is separated by Iron Palisadoes,) and on the other side by a steep declivity of great height, planted with Elms; on this walk are two neat houses, one contiguous to the City walls, the property of *Mr. Bailey*, Adjutant of the *North Devon Militia*; and the other on the mount opposite, (anciently termed *Gallants' Bower*,) the property and residence of *Warwick Hele Tonkin, Esq.* Recorder of *Plymouth*. †

Atwell's  
Almshouses

At the lower end of this walk, there are twelve Almshouses erected by the Chamber, from a charity left by *Lawrence Atwell, Esq.* which had for many years been sequestered, and the Estates leased out to private Individuals; this *Mr. Atwell* was a citizen, and Skinner, of *London*, born in this City of respectable parents, (his Grandfather having served the office of Mayor, five several times, in the reigns of four Kings of England,) § namely, *Edward 4th* and *5th*, *Richard 3d*, and the *7th Henry*, three of whom visited the City during his Magistracy.

In the former part of his life, *Mr. Atwell* was very unsuccessful, and met with great losses at Sea; but in the end, Providence so blessed his endcavours, that he acquired great riches; but having no issue, he bequeathed the chief part of his fortune to charitable uses, as appears by his Will, dated November

to the earth: in a Field adjoining this, about 120 paces distant, is a similar stone; these stones are erected in a direct line, nearly North and South: on what occasion they were set up in this place, cannot at present be surmised, as it is not probable they were boundary stones, to denote the limits of either Parish or County, being far within the limits of the County of *Exeter*, and Parish of *St. David*; therefore it must be left to better Antiquarians to determine. It is well known that the Ancient Britons often erected monuments of this kind.

† From these Houses the Walk is continued down the hill towards Northgate-street, between two rows of lofty Elms, whose tops meeting, form a pointed Arch, that has a pleasing effect, and without doubt, from similar scenery, our Ancestors borrowed their ideas of *Saracenic* Architecture.

§ "He saw five Princes which the Sceptre bore,"

"Of these he was a Magistrate to four."

*Dr. Vikeayne.*

venber 6th, 1588, wherein he left in trust to *Thomas Spicer*, Esq. (then one of the Aldermen,) and by him to be conveyed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. several Estates in the Parishes of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, *Whitstone* and *Uffculm*, in the County of *Devon*, the high rents of which amounted at that time, to 11*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* per annum; with the other profits and income arising from the said Estates, to be accumulated into a perpetual fund or stock of money; which by the Mayor and Aldermen, should be applied in the best manner possible, to keep the poor of the said City employed in some useful work, from time to time; the stock nevertheless not to be decreased, but increased, (if necessary,) out of the said Lands, &c. for ever.\*

At the East end of *Northernhay*, are six small Houses, each containing two rooms, with a small garden behind, built for twelve poor tradesmen of this City, or their widows, by *William Hurst*, Esq. who endowed the same with Lands, sufficient for allowing each poor inhabitant yearly 20*s.* to be paid to them quarterly, appointing the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. Trustees thereof, as appears by his deed, dated 13th October, 1567.

*John Lant*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by his Will, dated July 9th, 1614, gave towards their better support, 100*l.* for the purchase of Land; the rents and profits of which, were to be solely applied to their use for ever. In the front of these houses, is the following inscription:

*Built and Endowed, A. D. 1568, by William Hurst, Esq. who had been five times Mayor of this City.*

Opposite these houses, is the *London* (formerly the *Oxford*) *Inn*, lately rebuilt by *Mr. John Lant*. It is large, elegantly furnished, and has every accommodation for families of the first distinction.

Part of *Southernhay*, anciently *Crolditch*, is in this Parish, where there is now erecting an elegant pile of buildings, *Southernhay Place*, to consist of 36 houses, 12 of which are already finished and inhabited; these houses are built in an airy, healthy situation, with convenient avenues to any part of the City, by which they have an easy access to the Markets; the large area in front is to be levelled, and surrounded with iron Palisadoes, which will form pleasant walks for the occupiers of the Houses.

The Horse Barracks, and new County Gaol, are both situate in this Parish, but as they have been described in the Historical part, no farther description need be given, except an account of the benefactions left by some pious Christians,

Y y 2

for

\* See the Historical part, Page

CHAP. VI. for the relief of the unhappy prisoners confined in the old Gaol, which it is to be hoped, are continued to the present.

*Griffen Ameredith*, (sometime Mayor,) considering that the decent burial of the dead, was not the least office of Christian charity, (though People of former ages little regarded it;) and that though many persons justly suffered death for their offences; yet, being moved with pity to see their naked bodies interred, gave by Will dated August 3d, 1561, all his Lands, Tenements and Possessions, lying in *Sidburn*, in the County of *Devon*, for and towards purchasing Coffins for every Malefactor who should be executed from the County or City Gaol.

*Edward Ameredith*, his son and heir, desirous that his Father's will should be duly executed, did by his deed poll, dated April 9th, 1562, give and grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and to their successors for ever, all those his Messuages, Lands, Rents, Reversions, &c. with their appurtenances, for the purpose aforesaid.

*William Paramore*, (late of *Exeter*, Merchant,) by Will, February 22d, 1570; bequeathed to the needy prisoners, in the King's Gaol, (near the Castle of *Exeter*,) Ten Shillings yearly, for ever, to be paid by his heirs, out of his Lands in *Cook Row* † in the said City, late in the several possessions of *George Pyle*, Merchant; *John Lavers*, Goldsmith; and *John Madocke*, Haberdasher.

*Elizabeth Seldon*, widow of *Lawrence Seldon*, Esq.) ‡ bequeathed six-pence weekly, for ever, to be distributed among the poor Prisoners in this Gaol. §

*Mrs. Joan Tuckfield*, (widow and relict of *John Tuckfield*, Esq. sometime Mayor of this City,) by her will dated June 14th, 1568, (among other acts of charity,) granted and gave to the Corporation of Taylors in this City, her Lands in the Parish of *St. Paul*, on condition of their performing such charitable acts mentioned in the said will; one of which was, that they distribute yearly, for ever, among the poor prisoners confined in the Gaol near the Castle, Two Shillings, at the feast of *Easter*, and also to keep in constant repair, the walls, or inclosure, doors and locks, of a piece of ground appropriated, at her expence, to the burial of Malefactors executed at the adjoining gallows, at *Ringswell*, near *Exeter*. (previous to this, they were interred in the common highway.)

In case of failure, the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of this City are empowered to enter and enjoy the Lands for the uses mentioned.

*Edward*

† *Cook Row*, i. e. the upper end of *Southgate-street*, from the *Little Stile* to the corner of *High-street*.

‡ See Parish of *St. Lawrence*.

§ See rights of the Freemen of *Exeter*, Page 142.

*Edward Young*, D. D. (sometime Dean of this Cathedral,) CHAP. VI.  
by his will, dated June 6th, 1663, devised as follows: viz. that his Executor lay out 250*l.* within the space of two years after the death of the Testator, towards purchasing a Rent-charge, or other Land in feesimple; the rent thereof to amount to 12*l.* a year, for ever, for different charitable purposes. One of which was, that 20*s.* out of the said rent or income, be annually distributed to the poor prisoners, in the King's Gaol near the Castle, on the 29th day of May, for ever.

Near the scite of the ancient Northgate, at the *Falcon Inn*, is a cold Bath, supplied by a finespring, that issues from under the City walls. This Bath is greatly frequented by the female Jews.

In a field near the New Gaol, is an ancient mound, (or barrow) of a circular form, with a concavity in its centre. It appears to have been formerly trenched round, part of the trench still remaining; it is vulgarly called *Danes' Castle*, but it is evident from the smallness of the inclosure, and its concave form, that it was never designed for a fortification, not being capable of containing more than 100 men, nor is there any remaining vestige of contiguous works: notwithstanding the tradition that it was a fortification of the *Danes*, there is more probability that it was designed for a *Tumulus*. but whether it owes its construction to the *Britons*, *Danes*, or *Saxons*, is at this distance of time uncertain, this kind of *Tumuli*, being common to all the Northern Nations, by whom they were erected over the Graves of Kings, or persons of note slain in battle, every Soldier bringing his Helmet or Morion full of earth or stones, by which means those enormous mounds were easily constructed. \*

Ancient  
Barrow,  
called  
*Danes'*  
*Castle*.

In

\* Barrows of this construction are very common, and owe their origin to very early ages; most authors agreeing that in the concave basin, (if it might be so called,) they annually offered sacrifices; and their bards sung the virtuous and heroic actions of the defunct; others, (and those of no mean note) think that those concave mounds were designed as beacons, they being generally constructed on the most elevated spots, (which is the case of this,) and that they lighted fires in the centre, which the surrounding graff prevented from being dispersed by the wind, and by that means gave signal of the descent or approach of an enemy. From the centre of this Barrow there is a drain cut through the mound, evidently for the purpose of discharging the rain water, which otherwise would pond it, and make a stagnant pool. This Barrow (in its mutilated state,) is 100 feet in diameter, and the graff 16 feet in height in its most perfect part. Tradition informs us, that the field in which it is situated, was the scite of a *Danish Camp*, in one of their frequent sieges of this City, which although no intrenchments are now visible, seems very probable, its elevated situation commanding the Castle, from which it is separated by a deep ravine, and naturally fortified on the other side by one much deeper and wider, and which has evident signs of having once been an impassable morass, effectually securing it from any attack on that quarter.



**CHAP. VI.** In the year 1800, there were in this Parish 332 Houses, (19 uninhabited,) containing 443 Families, consisting of 804 Males, and 1050 Females: total, 1854 Inhabitants.

**St. Paul.** Adjoining the Parish of *St. David*, is that of *St. Paul*, wholly situate within the City walls; the ancient Church was dark, mean, and in a ruinous state, and the present one was erected on its site, about the latter end of the seventeenth century; it is a handsome edifice, consisting of a Nave and large Gallery; it is very neat withinside, well seated and full lighted, and has a marble Font. The Tower, under which is the principal entrance, is square, and ornamented with a Dial, a handsome niche, and festoons of flowers, the Tower contains a Clock and one Bell, and on its summit, is a small spire supporting a gilt weather-cock. The Architect grossly deceived the Parishioners, by imposing upon them a soft, sandy stone, which is greatly decayed, and though erected only about 120 years since, appears in a ruinous state, especially the cornice and ornaments in the front; the side next the street having been lately repaired. At what time a religious edifice was first erected on this spot, we have no memorial; but in the year 1222, it was made parochial, and is now a Rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books, at 8*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per annum; certified value 25*l.* present Rector, the Rev. *John Leigh*.

In this Church are the following monuments: near the Altar, on the North wall, is a large white marble Monument, embellished with Angels holding the Magisterial Fasces, a broken column, and other decorations; in the centre of which on a black marble tablet, is inscribed:

*Ob Honorem Viri nobilissimi Edvardi Seaward, Equitis, qui Patre Johanne Seaward, Danmonio e curia Clitensi, Divo Georgii, Generosa ibidem natus v. Calend. Novemb. Anno MDCXXXIV post Christum MDCCIII. Kal. Mart. diem Obiit supremum. Uxorem Hannam Nicolai Brokingg hujus Loci civis, gentem habentis filiam duxit, ex qua nati sunt Nicolaus, Edvardus, Johannes et Hanna, quibus Omnibus patrem Deus superstitem esse voluit. Summo magistratui in civitate nostra prae fuerat, ab Eadem delectus in regni senatum nostrorum militum Tribunus, et primus Πρωξαι; summa liberalitate ab se donato praefectus, quos omnes honoris gradus rite & Pervigili administratione, laude cumulatus tenuit & Implevit. Excellebat abstinencia, erat moribus, vitaeque sanctissimus & tanta munificentia ac pietate, ut tanquam si id sibi Negotii crederet solum dari, bonitatem & humanitatem, Ejus erga se quam plurimos sentire indigentes egregie. Sed quantum potuit, occulte sine teste, sine ullo Consocio studuerit.*

*Hinc*

*Hinc multos illos, quos in hac Urbe habitavit annos, magna* CHAP. VI.  
*autoritas apud Cives, nobili nomen, laus omnium bonorum Marima.*

A grave-stone near this monument has this inscription :

*Here lyeth the body of Sir Edward Seaward, Knight, Alderman and sometime Mayor of this City, who departed this life on the first day of March, 1703, in the 70th year of his age. And also the bodys of Nicholas, Edward, John and Hanna, children of the said Sir Edward Seaward. Also here lyeth the Lady Hannah Seaward relict of the said Sir Edward Seaward, who departed this life the 23d of July, 1712, in the 71st year of her age.*

On the left side of the Altar, is a neat monument of black and white marble, in memory of *Anne*, relict of *John Gilbert*, Esq. of *Compton*, in the Parish of *Marldon*, and daughter of *Richard Courtenay*, Esq. who died in 1775; and in memory also, of *Mary*, relict of *Pomeroy Gilbert*, Esq. son of the aforesaid *John* and *Anne*, daughter of *Admiral Williams*, who died in 1786.

On the North wall is a plain oval white marble tablet, erected to the memory of *Jurgen Hachmeester*, Gent. who departed this life in 1762; *He was a sincere christian, lived justly esteemed, and died greatly lamented by his friends.*

Against the South wall, is a small plain white marble tablet, erected to the memory of *Richard Langdon* B. M. (sometime Organist of *Exeter Cathedral*,) who died 2d September, 1803, aged 74.

On the right side of the Altar, is a neat monument of white marble, in the form of a Roman altar, over which is a female figure mourning by a mausoleum shown on the back ground, consisting of a pyramid with five urns; in the front of the altar is the following inscription :

*Sacred to the memory*

*Of John Codrington, Esq. of this City,*

*Who died January x, MDCCCL. aged LXX.*

*Of Mary his Wife,*

*Who died December XVII, MDCCXCV, aged LX,*

*And of Samuel and Sarah, their Son and Daughter,*

*Who died in the bloom of youth,*

*While hope illumined every scene,*

*And embellished future prospects with delusive expectations*

*Of prosperity and happiness.*

*Maria*

*Wife of Bartholomew Parr of this City, M. D.*

*The only remaining Child and Sister,*

*Had with deep regret directed this monument to be raised,*

*As a testimony of her affection and grief,*

*But before its completion,*

*Was*

CHAP. VI.

*Was herself consigned to the same tomb  
At the early age of xxxiii years,  
An. MDCCCIII.*

This neat monument was executed by *Mr. John Kendall*, of this City, Statuary.

Adjoining the Church is a small burying ground, probably part of the scite of the ancient edifice, omitted in the present building, for the sake of its retaining a regular figure.

Benefactions to the Parish of *St Paul*.

*Elizabeth Bucknam*, Widow, bequeathed 13s. 4d. yearly, to be divided among five poor householders of this Parish, quarterly, viz. eight-pence to each. †

*Mr. John Pillett*, Surgeon, bequeathed 25*l.* the interest of which, he willed, should be given to the poor of this parish, in twopenny loaves, at Christmas, Easter, and Michaelmas eves, by the Minister and Churchwardens, to the poor of this parish, for ever.

*Mrs. Mary Pillett*, widow of the above, bequeathed to *Mr. John Codrington*, and *Mr. James Grant* 20*l.* the interest of which, she ordained should be distributed in shirts and shifts yearly at Christmas, to such poor people of this Parish, as they shall think fit, for ever.

*Henry Gandy*, Esq. (twice Mayor of this City,) by his last Will, bequeathed a tenement, situate in the Parish of *St. Sidwells*, then the yearly value of 16*l.* to the governors of *St. John's Hospital*, for the maintenance of two boys within the said Hospital, which said boys are to be inhabitants of this Parish, and to be taken out of the Poor of this Parish for ever.

*Mr. Paul Philips*, bequeathed an annuity of 20*s.* to be distributed to three poor men and three poor women, inhabitants of this Parish, in shirts and shifts, on every Easter Monday. He also bequeathed 40*s.* to the then Warden, the interest of which he ordered should be for ever applied, to defray the expences of making the said shirts and shifts.

*Mr. John Yorke*, bequeathed by Will, an annuity of 30*s.* yearly, issuing out of a garden in the Parish of *St. David*, to to be distributed by the Wardens, to twelve poor people of this Parish, who have no Parochial relief.

*Thomas Binford*, Esq. bequeathed an annuity of 3*l.* issuing out of an Estate in the Parish of *St. Sidwells*, to be expended in wheat, and made into loaves, which said loaves are to be distributed to the Poor of this Parish, on every Christmas eve, for ever.

*Flay's*  
*Almshouses*

Nearly adjoining *St. Paul's Church*, are *Flay's Almshouses*. These Houses were erected according to the Will of *Thomas*

† See Parish of *St. Lawrence*.

*Thomas Flay*, Esq. (Alderman, and sometime Mayor of this City,) who 26th June, 1634, devised to *Elizabeth* his Wife and Executrix, divers Lands and Tenements in the Parishes of *St. Paul*, *St. Sidwells*, and *St. David*, in this City, to the intent that she should erect, within six years after his decease, upon part of the said Lands in *St. Paul's* Parish, four convenient Almshouses, with four Gardens adjoining, to be called *Flay's* Almshouses, for four poor Widows, to be at first placed in by his said Wife, and after her decease, by the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being, or the greater number of them; and after the erection of the said houses, the said *Elizabeth Flay*, her heirs and assigns, should for ever pay, out of the rents and profits of the said Lands, to every one of the said Widows, 12*d.* weekly, and the residue, or overplus of the said rents, should be appropriated towards the reparation and maintenance of the said Almshouses for ever: which said trust this charitable Lady faithfully performed, and out of her own bounty, added to her said husband's endowment, one shilling more to each, weekly; she also erected two more houses in the garden behind, appropriating them for the habitations of two poor Clergymen and their Wives, (who should be destitute of better habitations,) or for the Widows and relicts of such, endowing each of them with four shillings weekly, for ever; and appointed the Eastern part of the Garden for their use.

Over the entrance are the Founder's arms, impaled with those of his Wife, with an inscription alluding to the foundation; over them is a winged hourglass, with other emblems of mortality; and the date of their erection carved on a stone table; over the inner entrance is another inscription.

Adjoining these Almshouses, is the Taylors' Hall, consisting of a convenient Dwelling-house, with a handsome Hall, for their meetings; the gift of *Mrs. Joan Tuckfield*, widow of *John Tuckfield*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of this City,) who by her Will, dated 14th June, 1568, bequeathed to the corporation of Taylors within this City, all her Lands in the Parish of *St. Paul*, on the condition that they bestowed yearly for ever, at the feast of Easter, out of the profits of the said Land, 6*s.* 8*d.* viz. to the Ten Cells 1*s.* 8*d.* to the poor Prisoners in the Gaol near the Castle, 2*s.* and to the Prisoners in Southgate, 1*s.* 4*d.* and to repair the walls, with the doors and locks around a piece of ground at *Ringswell*, which she had caused to be inclosed for the interment of the Malefactors there executed.

*Joan Cleveland*, (late servant to the said *Mrs. Tuckfield*,) by her last Will, dated 24th May, 1599, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber, 20*l.* yearly, for ten years, until the sum

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amounted

**CHAP. VI.** amounted to 200*l.* which money she devised to be lent unto ten poor Artificers from year to year, they giving good security for the repayment of the same, and that 100*l.* of the said money should be so lent to five poor Taylors (freemen of the said corporation,) without Interest.

**Ancient Bridewell.** The ancient City Bridewell stood in *Goldsmith's-street* in this Parish; but the scite is now alienated from the Chamber, and no vestiges of the old building are remaining.

**City Almshouses.** On the City Walls, near the scite of the North gate; the Chamber, in the year 1763, erected twelve Almshouses for poor decayed freemen, and endowed the same with 2*s.* 6*d.* each almsman, weekly.

**Staff-bearers houses.** Adjoining these, are three more small houses, built by the Chamber, for the habitations of three of the Staff-bearers or Scavengers. †

**King Athelstan's Palace.** Near the Church was an ancient edifice, built of hewn stone, consisting of circular stone staircases, leading to many small vaulted rooms; this building according to tradition, was once the habitation of King *Athelstan*, termed by the vulgar, King *Addlestone's* palace; it was taken down some years since and modern buildings erected on its scite, particularly large and commodious wine vaults, the property of *Edmund Granger*, Esq.

According to the late returns, there were in the Parish of *St. Paul*, 189 inhabited, and 10 uninhabited houses, containing 269 families, in which were 492 males, and 606 females, in all, 1098 inhabitants. Incumbent, *Rev. John Ley*, A. M.

**St. Kerrian.** More towards the centre of the City, is the small Parish of *St. Kerrian*; the Church, is dedicated to an obsolete Irish Saint, (also called in Cornwall *St. Piran*, who came into that country about the year 460, died, and was buried at *Bodmin*;) it is dark and gloomy, and from its not being used for Divine Service, little attention is paid to its interior part; the tower, which is over the entrance, is low, and contains one bell and a clock, with a dial fronting the street; this Church bears evident marks of antiquity, but the era of its erection is not known, nor is there any mention made of it, until the year 1222, when it was made parochial; and probably at that period, from the superstition of the times, afforded a tolerable subsistence to a massing Priest; but since the reformation, it has been usually held with that of *St. Petrock*; it is a Rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and is valued in the King's Books, at 5*l.* 18*s.* 6½*d.* per annum; certified value, 16*l.*

In

† The eldest of the Staff-bearers has his residence in the City Bridewell, in *Paris-street*, he being the Marshal or keeper of it.

In this Church there is a mural monument in a dilapidated state, on the base of which is an excellent carving in bas-relief, representing the resurrection at the day of judgement: the inscription informs us that it was erected to the memory of *Jonathan Ivis*, who died March 14th, 1717: also *Elizabeth Ivis*. CHAP. VI.

In *Waterbear-street* in this Parish, lately stood a very ancient building; it originally consisted of three semicircular arches, supporting an angular front, with an arched window in the centre; those arches or gateways, led into a spacious hall, which (according to tradition,) was the *Prætorium* or Town Hall, while some respectable antiquarians, judge it to be the remains of a religious edifice; § but this does not seem probable, from the structure of the building, it having no remains of a vaulted roof, neither had it any of those grotesque embellishments, so common in the religious edifices of our Saxon ancestors; from its ruinous state, it was of necessity taken down in the year 1803, and capacious warehouses erected on its scite, by *Mr. Kingdon*, Ironmonger of this City; the annexed view will preserve its memory to future generations.

Ancient building in Waterbear-street.

Adjoining is a large ancient roomy house, bequeathed to the Charity schools, and now appropriated as habitations, for the two schoolmasters, with school-rooms for the boys. Boy's charity schools.

According to the late returns, there were in this small Parish, 42 houses, (of which 4 were uninhabited,) containing 58 families, the number of Males 104, Females 126, in all 230 inhabitants.

Contiguous to *St. Kerrian's*, is the Parish of *St. Petrock*; \* St. Petrock. the Church is an irregular building, which appears to have been erected at different periods, and is so obscurely situated

Z z 2

and

§ The learned *Dr. Ducarel*, is of opinion, that it was a religious edifice, and the first stone building erected in this City; the Churches of the Britons being composed of Wattles. On its demolition, nothing was discovered to strengthen this conjecture; the back part appeared to be designed for a prison; under which were strong stone walls, surrounding a square vault, in which were a Privy and Sewer, probably a Dungeon. The only remains of antiquity discovered, were several Roman coins, particularly one of *Constantius*, in good preservation, having on its exergue a column of trophies, at the foot of which were two captives chained in a sitting posture. A brass coin, on which within a lozenge, were four Flower de lues, and on its exergue, a ship with a large ensign, the only part of the inscription legible, is the word *Hanse*, in ancient characters; also a groat of *Henry 8th*, of silver, much debased.

\* This *Petrocus* lived a religious life in *Cornwall*, where he was much famed for his sanctity, and after his death, admitted into the *British Calendar*; he gave name to *Padstow*, (anciently written *Petrockstow*,) where he resided, and died. *Leland* says, in his time, his tomb and shrine were still remaining in the Church there. *Cambden*, page 11.

CHAP. VI. and surrounded by houses, that scarce any part of it can be seen, except the Tower, which is octagonal and small, with a spire and vane, in this tower are six small musical bells, and a clock with a double fronted dial, that projects over the houses; this clock has a set of chimies, which plays part of the 137th Psalm, at the hours of 4, 8, and 12; there are two narrow entrances into the Church, one from the *High-street*, and the other from *St. Peter's Yard*; it is kept in good repair, and neatly seated, and was made Parochial in 1222; it is now a Rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books, at 14l. 10s. 2½d. certified value 16l. per annum. Rector, *Rev. William Ornam*, A. M.

The following monuments are the only ones deserving notice in this Church.

Fixed against the North wall, is a very large and heavy stone mausoleum, on which are two busts, erected to the memory of *William Hooper*, Merchant of this City, and *Maria* his wife, who died in 1682.

Near this is a small mural monument, to the memory of *Francis* and *Alexander Worth*, sons of *Henry Worth* of *Worth*, in the County of *Devon*, Esq. *Francis* was a member of the Common Council of this City, who died in 1675, *Alexander* died in 1680. There are two other small mural monuments fixed against the same wall, with mutilated inscriptions, not worth remarking.

The whole of the ground round this Church, (now crouded with houses,) appears to have been a cemetery; great numbers of human bones having been discovered in digging for the foundations of houses. Near the Church, under the house now occupied by *Mr. George Cox*, is a cellar; which, from its arched stone groins, has occasioned conjectures, that it was originally the crypt of an ancient Chapel; and at a small distance West of the Church, is a stone front of very ancient artichecture and excellent masonry, beautifully disposed in pannels of Gothic fretwork, surmounted with stone battlements, on which a more modern and inelegant attic story has been raised, this fine specimen of ancient architecture, is now so obscured by buildings, that it cannot be seen to any advantage, except from the narrow back court of the *Globe Tavern*; though it is evident, it was originally open to the Churchyard.

At the corner of *Northgate-street*, was a very ancient house, lately rebuilt by *Mr. Thomas Floud*. This house is one of the original corners of the *Carfuix*, (which was of much greater extent than at present,) and from the simplicity of its architecture, appeared to have been erected in some part of the

the 13th century; it was constructed of wood, the stories jutting over each other as they rose upward, with a battlemented roof, on which an attic story had been raised in after ages. The only remains of this ancient structure, is a statue of *St. Peter*, large as life, treading on another figure, representing paganism; this statue is of wood, well executed, in a crouching posture, supporting the angle of the house, (its original situation,) holding in its right hand a Gothic Church, and in its left a book open; and at the fourth and fifth fingers, hung the usual emblems, two keys, but these are now broken off.

CHAP. VI.

Ancient  
Statue of  
*St. Peter*.

Near Broadgate in this Parish, are two public Banking-houses adjoining each other, the first established of which, is the *Devonshire Bank*, under the firm of *Barings, Short and Collyns*. The other is termed the *City Bank*; at present the firm is *Milford, Nation, and Co.*

Banking  
Houses.

By the last returns there were 46 houses in this Parish, (2 of which were uninhabited,) containing 54 families, in which were 132 Males, and 155 females, in all 287 inhabitants.

The Parish of *St. Mary Major* joins the last described Parish; this Church, in order to distinguish it from others of the same dedication, has had various adjunct appellations; being called in ancient writings, *St. Mary Michel*, † *St. Mary the Moor*, and *St. Mary Major*, it is an ancient edifice, but from the style of the building, the present Church does not appear to be the original religious structure erected on this spot, it being of *Norman* construction; whereas mention is made of it during the *Saxon* epoch, it being appropriated for holding the Archdeaconry court of *Exeter*, on the removal of the see from *Crediton*, and the said court is still held in it. In the year 1222, it is recorded as one of the Parish Churches then in this City: it is built in the *Saxon* manner, consisting of a Nave only, without any supporting columns, with pointed arched windows. At the East end, through a lofty Gothic arch, it opens into a large chancel, which is of a different construction, and appears of a more ancient date than the body of the Church; it has a separate entrance from the yard, and over the North window, is a small tablet representing *St. Lawrence* in a state of martyrdom on a gridiron; and on the angles of this, and the other windows, Cherubims supporting gridirons, are represented in bass relievo; ‡ opposite the

St. Mary  
Major.

† From the Anglo Saxon, *Micel*, signifying *Much*: whence the Scotch, *Mickle*.

‡ Tradition informs us, that this Chancel was a Chapel, dedicated to *St. Lawrence*, unconnected with the Church; and the vestry, the cell or habitation of the officiating Priest, which from the singular embellishments of the windows, and their non similarity with those of the Church, carries some air of probability with it.



**CHAP VI.** the entrance into the chancel, is a small vaulted room, now used as a vestry.

**Tower of  
St Mary  
Major.**

The Tower, which is situate at the West end of the Church, is of a singular construction, and has more the appearance of the *keep* of an ancient Castle, than of a campanile or Bell tower; it is evidently a *Saxon* building, and of more ancient date than the Church; in its original state, it was of greater height than at present; for about the year 1768, a survey being taken of it, the uppermost part was found decayed, and in danger of falling, greatly overhanging the base; therefore 35 feet were taken down, and an ill constructed cupola erected in its place; on the South and West angles are two strong projecting circular staircases, which lead to its summit, and the other two angles are strengthened by vast buttresses; the original entrance into this building, was through a semicircular arched gateway, between the projecting staircases; and over it is a large semicircular arch, in the middle of which is a small window, and on the buttress in the North angle is an antique niche or recess, surrounded by a plain band or moulding: for what purpose this recess was intended, cannot be conjectured, its situation in the buttress, proves it not designed for a window; neither are there any signs of a statue having ever been placed there; this nich is the only embellishment that is to be seen in this antique fabric. Neither history nor tradition inform us of the original intent of our ancestors in erecting this massy building, and therefore conjecture only can be offered; some are of opinion, that it was a *Pharos* (or watch Tower,) others, that it was a fortification, and the dernier resort of the inhabitants in time of war: § for which its strength in those days seems calculated; but these are opinions only; from the construction of the pointed arch, by which a communication is opened from the Tower to the Church, it seems the work of some ages after its first building. Against the front, there was injudiciously\* erected a dwelling-house, which like a veil, shrouded its beauty, and a long brick wall before the Church; but these are now taken down, and a battlemented porch with iron palisadoes, are substituted in their places. It had in former ages, a lofty spire, but that has been taken down for upwards of two centuries; it had six bells, five of which were sold, (to the great regret of many of the Parishioners,) towards defraying the expences incurred, by taking down part of the Tower in the year 1768.

This

§ See Judges, Chap. ix, v. 51. " But there was a strong Tower within the City, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the City, and shut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower."

This Church is light, kept in good repair, and has a neat CHAP. VI.  
well-toned Organ, erected in the year 1775, by the voluntary contributions of the Parishioners; the artist was *Mr. Micheau* of this City; it is a Rectory in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and valued in the King's books, at about 15*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* per annum, certified value, 36*l.* present Rector, *Rev. Walter Kitson, sen.*

The monumental inscriptions mostly deserving notice, are the following.

On the South Wall is a plain tablet, on which are the following acrostic lines.

*Made ripe for heaven by God's rich grace  
And called hence to that blest place  
Removed shee is from parents sight  
Yet lives above with Saints in light  
Prepare O blessed Lord my soul  
On thee I rest, on thee I role,  
Longing to be where saints above  
Eternally enjoy thy love.*

*Departed this life, 1676.*

Near the entrance into the Chancel, on the North wall, is a handsome monument painted and gilt, the pediment supported by two corinthian columns, on an oval black marble tablet, in the centre is this epitaph:

*M. S. Johannis Webb, armigeri, qui ex antiqua familia ultimus optimam vitam felicissima morte commutavit anno Dom. M,DC,LXXVI, Aprilis 22<sup>do</sup> cum 46<sup>ann</sup> ætatis annum unico die excessisset Johanna vidua mærens posuit.*

On the North side of the Altar, is a mural monument of white marble, decorated with Angels and other devices neatly executed; in the centre on an oval tablet, is the following inscription:

*M. S.  
Viri Optimi*

*Nicholai Hele, doctoris in medicina quam permultos annos scienter et feliciter exercuit. Obiit 3 Dec. MDCXCVI, ætatis suæ 62. Una subjacit Elizabeth Hele, uxor tali viro digna. Obiit x<sup>o</sup> die Decem, anno salutis MDCCXXI ano ætatis suæ 81.*

Near the Vestry door is a plain tablet, on which is inscribed:

*To the memory of Thomas Tooker, Brewer, and Sheriff of this City in 1638. He died in 1640. His only Daughter and Heiress Mary, was married to Henry White, of Henlane, in the County of Pembroke, Esq.*

Near the West entrance, is a plain white marble tablet, to the memory of that much lamented and able antiquarian, *Mr. William Chapple*, to whose extensive knowledge, and amiable

CHAP. VI. amiable conversation, latter chorographers are greatly indebted; on it are the following mementoes:

*Near this place lie buried, the Children of William and Elizabeth Chapple, of the Close, viz.*

William (1st) born 9th September, 1748. O. S.

Died 11th February, 1755. N. S.

John, born 11th October, - - - 1751. O. S.

Died 3d February, - - - 1755.

Elizabeth, born 21st September, - 1753.

Died 7th May, - 1756. } N. S.

William (2) born 31st January, } 1756.

Died 20th June

*Talium est Regnum Dei.*

Close beside them rests also the above-named *Elizabeth*, their Mother, who died on the 3d of October, 1777, having completed nearly the 30th year of her marriage, and the 60th of her age.

*Morte Deo placuit firmum sic solvere nodum:*

*Pro casta at remanet conjuge fidus amor.*

Also *William Chapple*, husband to the said *Elizabeth*, and father to the above-named children, who died September 1st, 1781, in the 63d year of his age.

On a wooden tablet,\* hung in the angle of one of the windows, on the North side of the Church, were painted the arms of *Petre*; *Gules* on a bend *Or*, a cornish chough *proper*, between two cinquefoils *azure*, between two *escallops argent*; and underneath, the following lines in black letter.

*Twenty Churches can reporte*

*The goodness of the manne*

*Who bare those armes in his life,*

*Through virtue he them wanne;*

*Of customers I think it meet*

*He ought to have best prayse,*

*John Petre, † so he knowe his name*

*He dyed by Exe at Hayes,*

*Who by his Will and Testamente*

*The Lord be prayd therefore*

*Gave twenty pounds in yearly rente,*

*To the Poore for evermore:*

*So that the Poore should have some part*

*Which he was blessed withalle*

*God*

\* This tablet is now removed.

† This *John Petre* was sometime the King's customer for this Port, he by his Will, dated 1579, left £20 per annum, issuing out of the sheaf of *Cornworthy*, in the County of *Devon*, to twenty different Parishes, (of which this was one,) for the preferment of poor maids in marriage; but no Parish in this City at present, receives any benefit from this donation.

*God give us grace to do the lyke,  
When hee us hence shall calle.*

### Benefactions to the Poor of this Parish.

*Lawrence Seldon*, by his last Will, dated 8th May, 1598; † bequeathed one shilling weekly, to be distributed in bread, to the poor thereof.

*Sir John Ackland of Columb-John*, Knight, enfeoffed the Chamber of this City, with the Rectory and Sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, for divers charitable uses, one of which was, that one shilling weekly should be for ever distributed in bread, to the Poor of this Parish. §

*Thomas Tooker*, of this Parish, Brewer, besides divers other charities, \* by Will, bequeathed an annuity of 20*s.* yearly to be divided by the Churchwardens and Overseers, respectively among the most aged poor people of the most honest conversation in this Parish, for their better relief, as to them should be thought most needful.

*John Reed*, (of this City, Fuller,) by Will, dated August, 1680, bequeathed to the poor of this Parish, an annuity or rent-charge, of 2*l.* 12*s.* yearly, to be distributed in bread, at the rate of 12*d.* weekly.

*Gilbert Keat*, † (late of *London*, Merchant,) and native of this Parish, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber of this City, (as appears by his Will, dated 12th August, 1656,) 400*l.* in trust, for and towards the maintenance of four poor children, two boys and two girls, to be taken out of this Parish, and to be maintained and educated; the boys in *St. John's Hospital*, and the Girls in *Hele's Hospital* in this City, and from thence to be bound out apprentices, which said children, during their residence in the said Hospitals, were to wear on the sleeves of their Hospital gowns, the initials G. K. ‡

In the open street, before the *Bear Inn*, is weekly held on Fridays, the Serge Market, formerly much noticed, and supposed to have been the largest in this Kingdom, except that of *Leeds* in *Yorkshire*; but it has, from various causes, greatly declined of late years. Serge Market.

Near this, is the *Anabaptist Meeting-house*, very commodious, and frequented by a large and genteel congregation; it is neatly seated, has large galleries, and is kept in good repair, Anabaptist Meeting-house.

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but

† See Parish of *St. Lawrence*.

§ Idem.

\* See Parish of *St. Sidwells's*.

† See *St. John's Hospital*.

‡ This charity, in respect of the four children being nominated from this Parish, and wearing G. K. on their upper garments, is not performed according to the Donor's intention.

**CHAP. VI.** but its situation behind the houses, entirely intercepts any exterior view.

**Methodist Chapel.**

At the bottom of *Rock-lane*, in an obscure situation, is a neat, well-built Chapel, belonging to the followers of the *Rev. Mr. George Whitfield*, it was built about the year 1772, by its present Pastor, *Mr. Tanner*, (shipwright of this City.)

**Old Shambles.**

Near *Little stile*, in *Southgate-street*, stood the ancient Shambles; over which was a long open gallery, supported by moorstone columns, in which was kept the Wool and Yarn market. At the upper end of the said street, near the *High-street*, is the general Bank, under the firm of *Joshua Williams, Robert Cross, & Thomas Sparkes*.

**Grendon's Almshouses**

*Grendon's Almshouses*, situate in *Preston-street* in this Parish, was founded about 1408, by *Simon Grendon, Esq.* (who had been thrice Mayor of *Exeter*,) for the habitation of ten poor women, who according to the superstition of those times, were bound to celibacy; but widows were not to be excluded, provided they entered not into a second marriage, from which circumstance they obtained the name of *Ten Cells*: the said founder also endowed them with several Fields, named *Culver Lands*, in the Parish of *St. Sidwells*, and appointed the Mayor and commonalty of this City, to be trustees of the same, and to have the nomination of the poor women for ever. Since their foundation, they have received the following additional benefactions.

*Alice Heath*, widow, by her deed Poll, dated May 18th, 1556, gave to certain Feoffees and their heirs, all her Lands, situate in *East and West Teignmouth*, or elsewhere in the County of *Devon*, for the only use and benefit of the poor women in these Almshouses.

*David Hensley*, Clerk, by his Deed, dated October 8th, 1556, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this City, and their successors for ever, an annuity or yearly rent-charge of 20s. issuing out of certain Lands, called *Lamp Lands*, situate in the Parish of *Kenn*, in the County of *Devon*, towards the better relief, and for the sole use of the poor inhabitants of these houses for ever.

*William Bucknam, Esq.* (sometime Mayor,) by Will bequeathed a certain sum of money, to be appropriated to charitable uses, and appointed *Philip Chichester, Esq.* his executor and trustee thereof, who therewith purchased the moiety of the *Bear Inn*, in *Southgate-street*, which he by his deed dated March 6th, 1563, granted and conveyed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of this City, and their successors for ever, on condition that they for ever do pay and distribute the profits accruing therefrom, towards the better support and maintenance

maintenance of these houses and Almswomen. The said **CHAP. VI.**  
*Mr. Chichester* also purchased a high rent of ten shillings per annum, issuing out of the said premises, and heretofore paid to the priory of *Plympton*, which he likewise settled on those houses for ever.

*William Hern*, Clerk, (late Rector of *St. Petrock's* in this City,) by Deed, dated April 10th, 1562, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. thereof 168*l.* 5*s.* for sundry charitable purposes, § one of which was, that they weekly pay to the poor Almswomen in these Houses, one penny each.

*John Haydon*, of *Cadhay*, in the Parish of *Ottery St. Mary*, by his Deed, dated March 6th, 1587, gave and granted to the Chamber of *Exeter*, divers Lands and Leases, to which he added twenty Pounds in money, for the relief of the Poor for ever; that is to say, at the two feasts of *Easter* and *Christmas*; yearly, they were to pay to the Churchwardens of *Kenn*, in the County of *Devon*, at each of the said Feasts, 2*l.* 8*s.* to be by them bestowed in bread, and distributed to the most necessitous poor of the said Parish; and to the poor of the *Ten Cells*, 2*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* viz. to every one of the said poor women therein, 4*s.* 8*d.* yearly, which is 14*d.* quarterly, to each of them.

*John Baker*, of this City, Baker, by Will, dated February 8th, 1603, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. an annuity or yearly rent of 15*s.* 4*d.* per annum, to be for ever issuable out of certain Lands in *Swithin-street*, in the Parish of *St. Olave*, in the said City, for certain charitable uses, one of which was, that they yearly pay to the poor of the *Ten Cells*, within the City, 3*s.* 4*d.*

*Robert Lant*, of *Kingston*, in the County of *Surrey*, Esq. a native of this City, and son of *John Lant*, Esq. sometime Mayor of *Exeter*, being informed that these houses were in a ruinous state, gave 100*l.* towards their rebuilding, and also endowed them, together with *Bonville's* Almshouses, with Lands of inheritances, situate in the Parish of *Buckland* in *Buntish*, in the County of *Dorset*, called *Newhouse Tenement*, of the yearly value of 50*l.* He also ordered that an account should be yearly made of the receipts and disbursements of the said Estate, within one Month after Michaelmas; and that the Town Clerk, for his trouble in making out the said accounts, should receive an annual pension of 20*s.*

These houses are not built quadrangular, as most of our ancient buildings of this kind are, but in a direct line; each house having an upper and under room, with a small garden behind; they are kept in good repair, and in the front they

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have

§ See *St. Catharine's Almshouses*, &c.

**CHAP. VI.** have a plain portico, or gallery, flagged with purbeck stone, which runs the whole length of the building, and makes a dry and comfortable communication of the aged inhabitants with each other.

**Bonville's Almshouses** In *Rock-lane* \* in this Parish, *Lord William Bonville*, Baron of *Shute*, founded an Almshouse for 12 poor people, to have continuance for ever; and by Will, dated March 24th, 1488, gave towards their maintenance, 7*d.* weekly, to be paid out of *Cowley Barton* in *Brampford Speke*, the Barton of *Greenlynch* in *Silverton*, the Manor of *Rowharm* in *Whitstone*, and divers houses and cellars in *Rock-lane*; but his Lordship being afterwards attainted for his adherence to the house of *York*, all the said Lands were escheated to the Crown: however, the pay to the poor was continued by the King's Receiver General of the County; and Queen *Elizabeth*, by her Letters Patent, dated November 8th, 1562, granted to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of this City, and their successors, that the Mayor and Aldermen, or the major part of them, should have full power and authority to nominate and appoint to all vacancies that might happen in the said Almshouses, according to the intention of the founder, and that none of her Majesty's officers or successors, should interrupt, or do any act in hindrance of the same, (her Majesty reserving to herself and successors, a power,) within two months after the death of every one of the said poor, to name and appoint by her Privy Signet, one other or others of the poor of the said City, unto the said place or places, whenever they shall happen to be void.

*John Baker* bequeathed an annuity of 3*s.* 4*d.* to the poor of these houses for ever. †

*Robert Lant*, Esq. was a great benefactor to these houses. ‡

During the unhappy dissensions, in the reign of *Charles 1st*, the stipend granted to this charity by Government, being discontinued, they were in consequence thereof neglected by the Trustees; and notwithstanding the said pay was recovered after the restoration, little attention being paid to them, they sunk into a heap of ruins, to which, rubbish being continually added, their scite formed a lofty mount, commonly termed

\* At the time of this foundation, *Rock-lane* was termed the *Combrew*, that is, a row of Houses situate in a Comb or Valley. Nearly opposite these houses stood an ancient Chapel, which was pulled down near a century back, by the then owner, who built several tenements with the materials: the superstitious tradition says, that no person ever prospered who inhabited them, therefore they were pulled down, and the scite converted into a garden.

† See the Ten Cells.

‡ Idem.

ed the *Brick-field*, in which state it continued, until the year 1770, when *Colonel Newton*, obtaining a grant of the Land from the Crown, caused it to be levelled, and converted into a garden. CHAP. VI.

History informs us, that there were other Almshouses in this Parish, near *Quay-gate*, but by whom founded is not mentioned; these houses, through the neglect of the trustees, are now dilapidated, and the land alienated, so that their exact scite cannot at this time be ascertained. The following is the only endowment belonging to them, that has been transmitted to posterity.

The aforesaid *John Baker*, § bequeathed an annuity of 2*s.* per annum, to the Almshouses near *Quay-gate*, to be paid quarterly, in equal portions for ever.

The *Bear Inn* in *Southgate-street*, was the scite of an ancient Priory, founded by *Bishop William Warlewast*; it was an appendage to the Priory of *Plympton*; whose Prior had sumptuous and convenient Lodgings here for his accommodation, whenever he resided in this City. Great part of the old buildings, particularly the Chapel, was standing a few years since; they were built with freestone, of excellent Gothic workmanship, decorated with fretwork pannels, mutilated inscriptions, and different sculptures were seen, and over the cornice even with the battlements was a cabossed statue of a Bear, holding a ragged staff between its paws, \* (the badge of the ancient Priors of *Plympton*.) This venerable pile of building being in a ruinous state, was pulled down, and a dwelling-house, offices, &c. erected on the scite, by *Mr. Robert Russel*. †

The opposite corner of *Bear-lane*, bears evident marks of antiquity. According to tradition, it was a Nunnery, but by whom founded, or when dissolved, there is no mention; probably it was one of those religious houses annexed to the Deanry, at its foundation by *Bishop Brewer*, as it still continues part of its possessions.

The *Black Lions Inn*, near the same spot, is a very ancient building, and from its appearance, seems to have been erected for monastic purposes, it occupies a large spot of ground; in the front, which was a few years since rebuilt, is an antique carving

§ See the Ten Cells.

\* It is supposed that from this Statue, the *Bear Inn* received its appellation.

† *Mr. Russel* is the principal of a large concern in the Waggon business, in which are employed a great number of horses; in 1798, when the *French* threatened invasion, he offered to assist Government with 300 capital draught horses, and to have them in readiness whenever required.



**CHAP. VI.** carving representing an Angel holding a shield, on which is inscribed the date of 1421, in ancient characters.

This Parish was formerly very opulent, and contained many respectable Clothiers and Merchants, but that trade having got into other channels, it is now chiefly inhabited by mechanics and labourers: it contained at the late survey, 299 inhabited and 11 uninhabited houses, occupied by 552 families, in which were 938 males, and 1197 females, in all, 2135 inhabitants.

Trinity  
Parish.

South of the Parish of *St. Mary Major*, is that dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*; it is extensive and populous, being partly within, but the greatest part without the City walls; the Church is a handsome Gothic edifice, kept in good repair, which being situate almost contiguous to the *Southgate*, appears at a distance to be part of it: the tower which projects into the street, contains four small untunable bells, and a Clock and Dial, this projection greatly narrows the avenue to the gate, which is rendered still worse by an arched building adjoining the Tower, once the habitation of the Priest, but now of the Sexton; we have no accounts of the era of the foundation of this Church, nor do we find it mentioned before the year 1222, when it was made parochial; it is now in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books, at 11*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* per annum, certified value, 31*l.* The present Rector is the *Rev. William Henry Carrington*.

This Church consists of a Chancel, Nave, and one Aisle, separated by six clustered pillars, and two galleries.

On the North side of the Chancel, is a neat monument, erected to the memory of *John Wyse*, Merchant of this City, who died 29th October, 1686. And near the West end of the Church in a plain stone tablet, to the memory of *Mr. John Carter*.

Benefactions to the Poor of the *Holy Trinity*.

*Sir John Ackland*, ‡ by Will, dated 14th September, 1609, bequeathed an annuity of 2*l.* 2*s.* yearly: one shilling of which to be weekly distributed in bread to the poor of this Parish.

*Elizabeth Bucknam*, § by Will dated May 16th, 1567, bequeathed an annuity of 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly, to be distributed to five poor householders of this Parish, 8*d.* each, quarterly.

*Lawrence Seldon*, by Deed, granted to the Chamber of *Exeter*, dated 8th May, 1598, \* gave 1*s.* weekly, to be distributed in bread to the poor of this Parish for ever.

it

‡ See the Parishes of *St. Lawrence*; *Allhallows Goldsmith's-street*; *St. Mary Major*; *St. Sidwells* and *Allhallows on the Walls*.

§ See Parish of *St. Lawrence*.

\* See donations to the Parish of *St. Sidwells*.

*Coin found under the old Gateway  
of S.<sup>t</sup> John's Hospital.*

*Date in the front of the  
Black Lions Inn. p. 576*



*Coins found in Waterbear street, and Hills-court.*



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ARCHITECTURE  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO

It has already been related that *Southgate* is nearly contiguous to this Church. CHAP. VI.

The Gate is a massy building of hewn stone. The entrance from the suburbs, is through a lofty pointed arch, flanked by circular towers, over the gateway is a niche, where lately stood a mutilated statue in a magisterial robe; this front is likewise decorated with angels, supporting the Royal and City arms; the interior arch of the gateway from its semicircular form, appears of *Saxon* construction, § and is probably some remains of the ancient gate, the present one being erected in the reign of *Henry 7th*. Southgate.

It has from time immemorial, been the common prison, and Sheriff's compter, for this City and County, and a worse one can hardly be imagined; the felons' prison is on the western side, consisting of three separate ground rooms, two of them appropriated for the men, and one for women; these rooms from their damp situation, and darkness, may not improperly be termed dungeons, \* and to add to their miserable state, the common sewer and drain from *Southernhay*, runs directly under them, into which an opening being made for their own conveniencies, a very noisome smell commonly arises. The Debtors' side, though not so bad as the Felons', is gloomy and unwholesome, and confinement in it is too severe a punishment for those unhappy objects, whose crimes are, too often, only misfortunes and poverty: † over the Felons' cells is a large room called the *shoe*, from the poor Debtors begging the charity of passengers from the barred window, and to receive which, they let down an old shoe by a cord: this room served formerly for a Chapel, as appears by part of the decalogue lately remaining, painted on the wall, but at present no clergyman administers spiritual comfort to the afflicted inhabitants. On the tops of the towers are battlemented

§ The learned *Dr. Stuckley* was of opinion, that this arch is of Roman construction.

\* *Mr. Andrew Brice* in his description of this Prison, facetiously introduces two lines from an old Ballad, termed *Lydford Law*, in which he says;

*Ten Men less room within this Cave,  
Than five Mice in a Lantern have.*

† During the latter part of the reign of *Charles 2d*. the Dissenters were much persecuted, and their Pastors for not conforming to the established Church, were imprisoned: one of them, the *Rev. Mr. Bretland*, a gentleman much respected for his learning and piety, was confined in this place, several years, which occasioned his penning the following lines, which were painted and hung up in the Hall, where they remained many years.

*This Prison is a house of care, no place for man to thrive,  
A touchstone for to try a friend; a grave for men alive!*

**CHAP. VI.** Benefactions to Southgate Prison. Clemented leads, which command a fine prospect, here the Debtors are sometimes permitted by the Gaoler to recreate themselves and enjoy the blessings of wholesome and free air. The late humane and philanthropic *Mr. Howard*, on an inspection of this Prison, declared it to be one of the most unwholesome and dismal places of confinement he had visited during his peregrination. This Prison having been several times presented by the Grand Jury, as a public nuisance, proposals were made for taking it down, and rebuilding it on a more convenient spot, but this salutary and philanthropic scheme, has been abandoned for the present, and only some small additions and alterations on the Felons' side, not much to the advantage or relief of the unhappy objects in confinement, has been adopted.

Benefactions to Southgate Prison.

There have been several benefactions for the relief of the unhappy objects confined here, by which the Debtors, (if not too numerous,) are nearly supplied with bread; if one only, he receives the whole.

*Reynold Hayne*, by Will dated 28th of *Edward 3d*, anno 1354, bequeathed all his Lands and Tenements lying in the suburbs of this City, to the Cathedral Church of *St. Peter*, within the same, for the relief of those that are imprisoned in the common Gaol of the said City.

*Joan Tuckfield*, (as before mentioned,) bequeathed several houses to the corporation of *Taylors*, on condition of their performing several charitable acts: one of which was, that they annually distribute at the feast of Easter, to the poor prisoners confined here, 1s. 4d.

*William Paramore* of this City, Merchant, by Will dated 22d February, 1570, bequeathed to the poor Felons in this Prison, 10s yearly; and likewise the same sum to the most needy Debtors: the said sum of 20s to be annually paid out of his Lands in *Cook-row* in this City, then occupied by *George Pyle*, Merchant; *John Lavers*, Goldsmith; and *John Madocke*, Haberdasher.

*John Haydon*, Esq. sometime Alderman of the City of *London*, by Will dated 11th of March, 1579, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber of *Exeter*, 200*l.* on condition that the same should be lent out to four young men of the said City of *Exeter*, Merchants, and trading over the seas, for four years space, they putting in four sufficient securities for the repayment of the same, at the expiration of the time specified, paying yearly interest for the same, 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* each, which amounts to 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum; and at the end of the four years, the same 200*l.* to be lent to four other young Merchants, and so on for ever; his Will is, that the said Mayor and Chamber and

their successors, should from time to time, employ and bestow the said 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* interest in the manner following, viz. to the poor Prisoners remaining within the Gaols of the City of *Exeter*, yearly, 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* and to the poor inhabitants of the parishes of *Woodbury* and *Ottery St. Mary*, yearly to each Parish, 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for ever, as the gift of the said *John Haydon*. †

*Lawrence Seldon*, Merchant of this City, by his Deed, dated 8th May, 1598, granted unto ten Feoffees, (members of the Chamber,) their heirs and assigns for ever, all those Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Reversions and Hereditaments whatsoever, with all the appurtenances, commonly called *Moor Estate*, (otherwise *Le Moor*,) in the manor of *Ringswell*, *Sowton Parish*, *Devon*, to the use of himself and wife, during their lives; and after their decease, that his said Feoffees, out of the rents and profits of the said Estates, should for ever weekly pay and deliver in bread as follows, viz. to the Parishes of *St. Mary Major*, *Trinity*, and *St. Sidwells*, within the City of *Exeter*, one shilling each; to the Parish of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, eight-pence; and to the Parish of *Sowton*, four-pence; which said bread was to be distributed by the churchwardens and overseers of their respective parishes, every Sunday, to the most deserving poor people of the said parishes; and that the said Feoffees, after paying all high rents, suits, services, and reparations, should yearly, on the 20th of October, for ever, give up to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Town-Clerk, a true account of the receipts and disbursements, and to pay yearly to the said Mayor and Officers 4*s.* 6*d.* for their trouble in seeing the said Will performed, and the residue of the said rents to be given to the poor prisoners, confined in the City and Castle of *Exeter*.

The said Feoffees, by their Deed, dated 29th September, 1599, expressing that some things in the said Will were uncertain, and that *Elizabeth Seldon*, the widow of the said *Lawrence*, was desirous to add some portion to the premises, for the better accomplishment of the said Will, and performance of the covenants expressed in a schedule annexed, did grant, enfeoff, and confirm to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of the said City, and their successors for ever, the premises mentioned in the first grant, and to the uses aforesaid, therein declared; and the said *Elizabeth*, by this Deed, did covenant to pay to the said Mayor, &c. within six months after her decease, 100 marks, on condition that six-pence more week-

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ly

† This charity is not fulfilled according to the Will of the Donor, the said money not having been lent as directed, for upwards of 50 years. (*Rights and Privileges of the Freemen*, Page 80.)

CHAP. VI. ly should be added to the Parish of *St. Lawrence*; six-pence more weekly to the prisoners in the Gaol near the Castle; and to the prisoners in the Compter, Sheriff's Ward, Gaol, and Prisons of the said City 2s. 6d. in bread and meat, weekly, according to the discretion of the Mayor for the time being, with increase of the fees of the officers for their care: and if the rents be defective, the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty are to make them good out of their own lands, and the account thereof to be made yearly as aforesaid. She also gave to the Mayor, &c. a large standing cup of silver, with a cover double gilt, weighing 50 ounces, to be used by the Mayors successively. §

*William Tryvett*, (some time one of the common council of this City,) by Will, bequeathed to the chamber one great brass pot, for the use of the prisoners in *Southgate*, to boil their meat in, which (after his decease,) was accordingly sent by his widow and executrix. \*

In *Magdalene-street*, in this parish, is situate *Palmer's Almshouses*, founded by *John Palmer*, of this City, baker, for four poor women; and the said founder, by Will, dated 26th October, 1487, bequeathed unto six feoffees in trust, all his messuages, lands, &c. in the said street, (then an inn, called the *Bull Inn*, with a tenement adjoining;) and other lands in the county of Devon, to the intent, that the said feoffees should pay to the wardens of the said parish 13s. 4d. yearly, at his anniversary; and to every one of the said poor almswomen 6s. 8d. at the feasts of Easter, and Christmas, by equal portions; and that the houses should be well repaired, and if any thing remained, it should be disposed of to pious uses; and that when three of the said feoffees should die, the survivors should make a new feoffment, to six other honest persons, to perform his will. These houses consist of two rooms, each with a small garden in front, they are kept in good repair by the chamber, who at present hold the trust.

Wynard's  
Almshouses

In the same street are *Wynard's Almshouses*, and *Chapel*, founded by *William Wynard*, Esq. (sometime recorder of *Exeter*;) for the habitations of a priest and twelve poor men. The said founder ordered the Chapel to be dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, and the Hospital to be called *God's House*, and that the priest, together with the twelve poor men, continually reside there. And for their better maintenance, he,

by

§ This Cup has long been alienated. (*Rights and Privileges*, Page 143.)

\* This extraordinary donation has long since either been embzzled or worn out, and was it still remaining, it would prove of little use to the Prisoners, unless some philanthropic Person would provide them with meat to boil in it.

by a feoffment, dated 20th January, 1435, granted divers lands and tenements in this City, and county of Devon, unto fifteen gentlemen, and their heirs successively, the remainder in the crown, that the tertenant shall pay to the said chaplain yearly, the sum of eight marks, and to every one of the said poor men eight-pence each weekly; appointing to the said men several religious services to be done by them, particularly that they should, twice a day, repair to the chapel, to hear divine service; that none should be vagrant or beg; that all alms given should be put in the common box placed near the gate, and to be equally divided among them; that the Mayor and Bailiffs should, twice every year, visit the said houses, (viz. within 8 days of *Easter*, and *St. Michael the Arch-Angel*,) to hear the complaints of the poor, and remedy the abuses, appointing a collation for the visitors, and fees for the officers; that the moiety of the rents, issues, and profits of the lands at all times to come (beyond the finding and sustaining the said chaplain and poor,) remaining, should be reserved to the tertenant, fulfilling his ordination; and the other moiety to be reserved for the use of the houses, for defraying the expence of suits at law, and preserving their rights to the lands thus bequeathed, which said moiety were constantly to be kept in a strong box, provided for that purpose by the donor, secured with three locks. These ordinances were for many years duly observed, and the lands descending by the aforesaid conveyance to the *Spekes*;\* and although the salary granted to the priest by the statute of Chantries (at the reformation,) came to the crown, it was continued, and the yearly value of the lands greatly increasing, *Sir George Speke*, of *White Lackington*, being the tertenant, increased the poor's pay from eight-pence to thirteen-pence weekly, during his life, but soon after, the unhappy differences breaking out between *King Charles* and the *Parliament*, their weekly pay was discontinued, and about the year 1643 the chapel and houses were demolished. During these troubles, the lands came by descent to *George Speke, Esq.* who not only refused to re-build the premises, (notwithstanding the great income he received from the lands,) but also retained five-pence weekly of the thirteen-pence granted to the poor by his predecessors, as aforesaid, whereupon the Mayor and Bailiffs (as visitors of the said foundation,) endeavoured to prevail on the said *Mr. Speke* to fulfill the Will of the founder, but without effect: accordingly, in *Michaelmas Term*, 1654, they exhibited a bill in chancery against him,

B b b 2

to

\* By the marriage of *Sir John Speke, Kt.* with *Joan*, daughter of *John Wynard, Esq.*



**CHAP. VI.** to compel him thereto; this suit, owing to the convulsions of the times, was much litigated, and continued in debate near eight years, in which suit the chamber expended 300*l.* but after the restoration, in *Trinity Term*, 1692, they obtained the following decree.

1st. That the chapel be repaired by the defendant, and made fit for divine service by *Michaelmas* come twelvemonth: and that the divine service of the church be read there every morning, by eight o'clock, to the poor, and the owner of the land to appoint one of the secondaries of the cathedral to read prayers there, and allow him twenty nobles per annum for his salary, to be paid quarterly.

2d. That the defendant, *Mr. Speke*, pay the poor two shillings a week for their maintenance, in all times to come, and this to be paid to them weekly, and he to secure the payment thereof by charge on the land, or decree in chancery, as shall be advised.

3d. That when the leases of the houses and tenements now in the tenure of *Roger Cheeke*, lying within the City of *Exeter*, shall be renewed, or fall into hand, that upon renewing the lease thereof, the rent reserved shall be increased 12*l.* per annum, and so continue for ever hereafter, which 12*l.* shall go unto, and be equally divided among the twelve poor people of the said Almshouses.

4th, That all fines, casualties, and profits of all lands, shall go and be paid to the defendant, *Mr. Speke*, and his heirs, without any account to be given thereof, charged with the payments before-mentioned, and with the maintenance and reparation of the said houses and chapel, and the other charges named in the said ordination, and no future or further increase of maintenance to be claimed or made to the poor in time to come, but the visitation of the houses to be according to the ordination.

5th. That the Mayor and Aldermen of *Exeter*, for the time to come, shall have the nominating of eight of the twelve poor men of the said hospital, as *poor decayed tradesmen of the said City*; and *Mr. Speke* and his heirs, the appointment of the other four, to be poor decayed men of *Devon* or *Somerset*, in turn, as places shall fall; first, the City twice, and *Mr. Speke* the third, and when the City's turn is, they shall nominate two poor men of the said city to *Mr. Speke*, of which he shall admit one to be the almsman within twenty days after such nomination; and those that are appointed by *Mr. Speke*, in his turn, out of *Devon* or *Somerset*, shall be such as shall not be burthensome to the said City, but live upon their own, and allowance of the said Almshouse.

6th.

6th. That 100*l.* costs be paid by the defendant, *Mr. Speke*, to the complainants, towards the great charge the City of *Exeter* has been at in prosecuting this suit, for settling the said Alms-houses, and the relief of the poor in it. CHAP. VI.

7th. And lastly it is ordered and decreed, that the said lands shall stand chargeable to the performance of this decree, and that the owner of the said lands (when it comes in their turns to nominate as beforesaid,) shall, within three months after the decease of any of the said almsmen, nominate another to succeed him.

These lands, by failure of issue male, in the *Speke's* family, came by marriage to the *Right Hon. Frederic, Lord North*, who, some years since, sold them, together with the patronage of this foundation, to the late *William Kennaway, Esq.* an eminent merchant, of this City, (father of the present Sir John Kennaway, Bart.) This gentleman proved a faithful patron, he not only thoroughly repaired the houses, but greatly beautified the chapel, and presented to it a neat service of silver communion plate; he also caused a large vault to be made in it, for a dormitory for himself and family, in which he lies interred, and a handsome marble monument has been erected to his memory. There is likewise an ancient monument, to the memory of the pious founder, on which is this epitaph:

*Hæc nova structura retinens habitacula plura,  
Sic permansura per tempora longa futura,  
Debilibus simulæ senibus fuit æ edificata,  
Pauperibus non divitibus fuit ista beata,  
Hanc qui fundavit, donavit, perpetuavit,  
Crimina cum lavit sua credimus omnia lavit,  
Constructor ejus patriæ edecq; verbis et hijus,  
Atq: Recordator Wynard heu! nomine Willus,  
Sit domus ista Dei, aut hæc mea non reputetur,  
Sic baptizetur, sit domus ista Dei.  
M: C: junge quater sit opus hæc numera ter.  
Anno octavo regni regis Henrici sexti:*

*Annoq. Dñi 1430.*

The present chaplain is the *Rev. Richard Eastcott*, one of the priest vicars of the cathedral, and rector of *St. Edmunds* and *St. Mary Steps*.

At the foot of the hill is a very ancient chapel and hospital, dedicated to *St. Mary Magdalene*, (from whence the street derives its name of *Maudlin*;) this, with a small district around, is extra-parochial, and formerly had considerable revenues.\*

It

\* The leases of the lands, still remaining to this hospital, are granted in the name of the brothers and sisters of the hospital of *St. Mary Magdalene*.

**CHAP. VI.** It was built soon after the conquest, or the return of the first Crusaders from the *Holy Land*, who imported with them that loathsome disease the Elephanthis, (or Leprosy,) a malady unknown to the *Anglo Saxons*. Who were the founders of this hospital is not recorded, but most probably as it was under the protection of the Bishops of *Exeter*, was founded by one of them, for the reception of those unhappy objects who should be infected with that disorder, and to prevent the contagion from spreading.

In 1163, Bishop *Bartholemew Iscanus* granted to the infected people of this hospital, liberty to collect a toll on a corn and bread sold in the fairs and markets of this City, and also to collect alms from door to door of the citizens, on certain days every week, accordingly they continued so to do until the year 1244; when the citizens complaining that their frequent intercourse through the markets and streets was obnoxious to them, and occasioned the spreading of the disease forbid them the markets, and refused them any relief, which much grieved the then Bishop *Brewer*, and to prevent any future dispute, an agreement was made between the Mayor and Citizens on the one part, and the Bishop on the other to exchange their right of patronage, accordingly the Bishop surrendered to the Mayor, &c. his claims on this hospital, and received in exchange, the patronage of that of *St. Johns*, near *Eastgate*.

*Richard Orange, Esq.* a gentleman of noble parentage, and Mayor of this City in 1454, being infected with the Leprosy, notwithstanding his great wealth, submitted himself to a residence in this hospital, where he lived many years, and finished his days, and was buried in the chancel of the chapel; his grave, with a mutilated inscription, is still remaining.

Benefactions to the Leper's hospital.

The following benefactions that have been given to this hospital are the only ones preserved.

*John Periman* was a great benefactor. †

*John Baker* bequeathed to the poor of this hospital an annuity of 3s. 4d. yearly.

*Robert Chafe, Esq.* (sometime Mayor,) bequeathed an annuity, or yearly rent charge of 14s. to be for ever issued out of a dwelling-house, in *St. Mary Archer's* parish.

It having been proved, by an inquisition held before the *Right Hon. Thomas, Lord Coventry*, lord-keeper of the great seal of England, 6th July, 1633, that from time immemorial, the Dean and Chapter were accustomed to pay the sum of 2l. 12s. yearly to the poor of this hospital; the said lord-keeper

† See the list of general benefactions to this City.

eeper confirmed a decree, † that the said sum should for CHAP. VI.  
 ver henceforth be paid to them, by the Dean and Chapter,  
 which is still continued.

*Joan Tuckfield* bequeathed yearly to the poor lazar people  
 a this hospital § 1*s.* 8*d.*

What was the extent or form of the original building of  
 his hospital, cannot now be ascertained, no part, except the  
 chapel, bearing any vestige of antiquity; the houses, about  
 six in number, not being contiguous, appears to have been  
 erected at different periods, and as claimants that are leprous  
 are not now to be found sufficient to occupy them, they are  
 filled with other poor people, nominated by the Warden and  
 Chamber. The chapel is now desecrated, and kept in a  
 filthy condition, no glass being in the windows; it still has  
 one bell, and some mutilated gravestones with broken in-  
 scriptions.

In *James's-street*, within Southgate, are six Almshouses,  
 founded by *Christopher Lethbridge, Esq.* (sometime Mayor Leth-  
bridge's  
 of *Exeter*, before the year 1669,) for six poor people; the almshouses.  
 said founder also endowed them with 15*l.* 12*s.* per annum,  
 to be equally divided, and paid monthly to the poor oc-  
 cupiers, appointing the Mayor and Chamber to be trustees;  
 he also ordered, that one of the said alms-people should, for  
 ever, be chosen from the poor of *St. Mary Archer's* parish.

Just without Southgate, is the manor anciently occupied  
 and belonging to the Grey Friars, and from them is still de- The Fryers,  
 nominated the *Friars*; on this scite they founded a sumptuous  
 house and church, with large orchards and gardens, of  
 which there is not, at present, the smallest vestige remaining.  
 The choice of this place confirms the old adage, "that when-  
 ever there was a good prospect, or a pleasant spot of land, a  
 Fryer was sure to be found." On this ground there is now  
 erecting a beautiful pile of buildings, which is to consist of  
 29 houses, comprising a small segment of a circle. The  
 first stone of these buildings was laid by *Mrs. Graves* (wife  
 of the present, and daughter of the late proprietor,) and  
*Thomas Floud, Esq.* late Mayor, who named it *Colleton*  
*Crescent*. Behind the gardens of these houses, is intended to  
 be erected convenient mews and coach-houses, and another  
 street parallel to Holloway, to be named *Graves's-street*.  
 When the whole is finished, it will be an ornament to this  
 City. In the front of *Colleton Crescent*, a fine terrace walk  
 is to be made, which will be near 100 feet above the bed of  
 the river, from this walk, and from the houses, there is one  
 of

† See donations to the Parish of *St. Sidwells*.

§ See benefactions to the company of *Taylors, St. Paul's Parish*.

**CHAP. VI.** of the most charming prospects imaginable, the navigable river *Ere*, the shipping, and crowded quay beneath, whilst the elevated situation protects from the damps of the one, and the noise of the other; the beautiful reach of the river from the quay to the bridge, the water of which being embayed by *Trew's Wear*, and always full, has the appearance of an artificial lake; the meanders of the *Haven*, with its pleasant and often crowded banks, the shifting scenery of vessels passing up and down, and the church and town of *St. Thomas*, are truly picturesque; beyond these, the finely cultivated country, interspersed with villages, farms, &c. between the City and the brown heights of *Haldon*, *Penhill*, &c.; and to the South, the estuary of the *Ere*, to its junction with the ocean. In short, for salubrity of air, fine prospect, and delightful situation, it cannot be exceeded, if equalled, in any city or town in the kingdom.

Quaker's  
meeting-  
house.

Dissenter's  
burying  
ground.

Jew's ditto.

George's  
meeting

The Quaker's meeting-house is situate in *Magdalene-street*, it is a plain structure, remarkably clean and neat within, and behind it is a cemetery.

Opposite the Quaker's meeting-house is a large burying ground, belonging to the Presbyterians. And adjoining it is another, belonging to the Jews.\*

In *Southgate-street* is a large and handsome dissenting meeting-house, named *George's Meeting*, it is built of brick, with Portland stone bands and copings, and in the front, is a large and lofty portico, supported by Tuscan columns; the whole is spacious and elegant, and is not excelled by any edifice of the kind in the kingdom, and has a large and genteel congregation belonging to it; it was erected in the year 1760, in the room of one which stood in *James's-street*.

The Quay is likewise in this parish, which is large and commodious, ships of 150 tons burthen and upwards, being capable of laying alongside it, and discharging their cargoes; the passage to it from *Topsham*, is by an artificial canal, on which are four sluices, which opens into a large bay formed by *Trew's Wear*. On this quay is a handsome custom-house, with apartments for the collector, comptrollers, and land-waiters offices, and a handsome office for the wharfinger, with lofts and cellars for storing goods. A new canal is now begun, which is to extend from the quay bay to the town of *Crediton*, which will be of great advantage to the country, and it is to be hoped, will be further continued. §

According

\* Near these burying grounds is an ancient stone cross, fixed against the wall; its shaft is either broken off or sunk into the ground.

§ The advantage of inland navigation is too well known to need any comment.

According to the late returns, there were in the parish of CHAP. VI.  
the *Holy Trinity* 294 houses, (15 of which were uninhabited,) containing 345 families, in which were 821 males, and 1119 females, in all 1940 inhabitants.

Proceeding more towards the centre of the City, is the parish of *St. George*; the church is small, consisting of a nave, chancel, and small aisle under the tower; from this aisle there is an aperture made thro' the wall, for the convenience of that part of the congregation to behold the elevation of the host, (the custom, before the reformation.) This church is kept in good repair, and is neatly seated; the tower is large, but not lofty, and is not decorated with either spire or vane, it contains a good ring of five bells, and also a clock, without a dial. This parish is usually held in commendam with that of *St. John*, and divine service is here performed to the united parishes in the forenoon only. The era of its foundation is not known, but it appears to be an ancient structure, though not mentioned till the year 1222, when it was made parochial; it is now a rectory in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and is valued in the King's books at 9*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum, certified value 28*l.* §

The only monuments deserving notice are the following:

On the north side, near the altar, is a neat mural monument to the memory of the *Rev. William Chilcot*, rector of this church, and of his daughter. He died the 30th of May, 1711.

Near this, is a large heavy stone monument, on which is a bust, erected to the memory of *Thomas Baron, Esq.* sometime of *Exeter*.

Likewise another, with a bust neatly executed, to the memory of *Richard Vivian*, of *Exeter*, merchant, who died in 1746.

Benefactions to the poor of *St. George's* parish.

*John Baker*, (of this City, baker,) among other charities, bequeathed to the poor of this parish, an annuity of 3*s.* 4*d.* yearly.

C c c

The

comments thereon, or to point out the great benefits that would accrue by forming a junction of the North and South Seas by this canal, a scheme very practicable, as a branch of the river Taw runs not six miles from *Crediton*, which would form a communication between the ports of *Exeter* and *Barnstaple*, by which means, the dangerous and circuitous passage round the Land's End would be avoided, insurance needless, and trade greatly benefited, to the incalculable advantage of the whole country.

§ This living must be over valued in the Liber Regis, as from very good authority, the late worthy rector, Mr. Marshall, never received 16*l.* a year from it.

CHAP. VI.King John's  
Palace.

The remains of antiquity in this parish are few; the only one deserving notice is an ancient house opposite *Little-stile gate*, vulgarly called *King John's Palace*; this house has been greatly altered from its original state, by its present owner, *Mr. Henry Flashman*, cabinet-maker. The decorations of the principal entrance are very remarkable, consisting of two grotesque figures, in a crouching posture, supporting statues: that on the left hand, representing a clown, in an antique dress, holding a club in the attitude of striking, and over his head, on a shield, are the royal arms of *England and France*, quarterly. The other statue represents a zany, in an antic dress, trimmed with small round bells, his head covered with a long peccadillo cap, and holding a child's doll, over him are the arms of the City.\*

Butcher-  
row.Corn-mar-  
ket.

The Butcher-row (the greatest part of which is in this parish,) consists of a narrow street, the buildings, in general, low and mean, with heavy hanging window-shutters; here the knights of the steel reside in a kind of community among themselves, slaughter their cattle and expose their meat to sale; adjoining to it, is the Corn-market, a quadrangular building, supported by wooden pillars, surrounded with stalls for the use of the country butchers, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. These shambles, as well as the stalls of the resident butchers, afford a great variety, and are as well supplied as any market in the kingdom. The Corn-market is open for the sale of all sorts of grain and seeds every Friday, and is greatly resorted to.

The slaughtering of cattle, with the accumulation of dung, blood, &c. thrown in heaps behind the houses, makes the Butcher-row a noisome place in the summer; but such is the force of habit, that the inhabitants cannot be prevailed on to remove such a nuisance. § Some years since, the Chamber erected, at a great expence, a row of slaughter houses, with hogsties, and every necessary conveniency, upon the banks of the river, and opened an avenue to them over the City walls, but they were soon deserted, and the building was converted into a brewhouse. Notwithstanding the noisome smells arising from such an accumulation of putrid materials, tradition informs us, that during

\* From the peculiarity of this device, some gentlemen are led to conjecture, that it is satirical.

§ Since the removal of the conduit to its present station, the waste water is conveyed into the Butcher-row, which, by cleaning the kennel, in some measure alleviates the nuisance.

ing the ravages of the most severe pestilences in this City, it CHAP. VI.  
did not appear in this district.

*Thomas Flood, Esq.* during his Mayoralty, introduced a new method of laying cattle, recommended by the *Right Hon. Lord Somerville*; which is (instead of the barbarous method of breaking the skull with a poll-axe,) thrusting a double-edged sharp pointed dagger between the *cervical vertebrae* of the forehead,\* which occasions almost instant death; and by this means diminishes the sufferings of the poor animal.

*Mr. George England* first put this method in practice in this City; but few others have, as yet, followed his example.

According to the last returns, this parish contained 75 inhabited houses, and 7 uninhabited, in which were 143 families, consisting of 291 males, and 351 females; in all, 642 inhabitants.

The parish of *St. Mary Arches* is contiguous to that of *St. George*; the church (which is situate in a lane of the same name,) is a large and regular building, in the gothic stile, St. Mary Arches. consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and spacious gallery; the vaulted roof is supported by slender pillars, forming pointed arches, from whence it obtained its epithet of *St. Mary Arches*, (like *St. Mary le Bow*, in *London*,) to distinguish it from others dedicated to the blessed Virgin, in different parts of this City. This church is kept in good repair; has an organ, is neatly pewed, and has three large brass chandeliers. The tower, under which is the principal entrance, is square and low, containing four small bells, a clock and dial; the summit crested with a modern erected cupola, which has a small shrill-toned bell, used to give notice of the time of divine service. This church is ancient, but does not appear, from the stile of architecture, to be the original sacred edifice erected on the same spot, as we find it was made parochial in the year 1222; it is now a rectory, (to which is united that of *St. Olave*,) in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, and is valued in the King's books at 10*l.* per annum; certified value 16*l.* Rector, the *Rev. Benedict Pering*. The rector has a neat parsonage house, in Bartholomew-street, the only one in the City deserving notice.

There are many sepulchral monuments; among which, the following only, are worthy notice.

C c c 2

On

\* This method has for many years been practised in *Gibraltar*, by the English butchers, who learned it from their African neighbours; and it is to be hoped the legislature will soon make a compulsory law to enforce it.



CHAP. VI. On the north side is an ancient monument, in a good taste, and well executed. The inscription is now imperfect; it was erected to the memory of *John Davie, Esq.* (who was three times Mayor of this City,) and died 11th January, 1611.

*Mr. Prince* has preserved the verses formerly on this monument.

*This marble monument, this fading brass  
Might have been spar'd, for neither needful was,  
To stand a register of Davie's name;  
Who living did erect a fairer frame  
And far more lasting; whose foundation  
Was firmly ground on the corner stone.  
Whose bar was faith, whose pillars piety,  
And whose engravings works of charity.  
Then let the dead trust to a dying tomb;  
But how can death in Davie find a room.  
Whose soul in Heaven alive does aye remain,  
Whose works on earth so many lives maintain.*

There are several mural monuments to the memory of the ancient and prætorial family of the *Walkers*, of this City; but the inscriptions are much defaced by time, particularly one on the east side, on which is "*Robert Walker, son of Thomas Walker, sometime Mayor of this City, who died 23d of August, 1673.*" Also another to the memory of *Thomas Walker*, son of the said *Robert Walker*, who died 24th November, 1682. Near the last-mentioned, is another, inscribed "to the memory of *Mary, wife of John Ceely, (Canon of St. Peter's,) and daughter of Robert Walker, Esq.*" On the south side, is a large decent monument, on which are two figures in a kneeling posture, and well executed, in the dress of the times, "to the memory of *Thomas Walker, Esq.* (three times Mayor,) and his *Wife*; he died November 3d, 1628." On the north side is a large stately monument, erected to the memory of *Richard Crossing*, (sometime Mayor,) who died October 3d, 1672. And another to the memory of *Nicholas Brooking, Esq.* Mayor, who died 3d October, 1666. And against the south wall is a decent one, to the memory *Christopher Lethbridge, Esq.* Mayor, who died May 15th, 1670, and of his *Wife*.

Benefactions to the poor of *St. Mary Arches*.

Benefac-  
tions.

*Richard Beavis*, of this City, Merchant, by Deed, dated 16th June, 1602, granted to *William Tickle* and *John Marshal*, Gents. and their heirs, four messuages, one barn, and two acres of land, lying in the parishes of *St. Mary Major* and *St. Sidwell*, to the use of himself for life, and to several

several others in tail, provided that the said feoffees and their heirs and assigns should, and might for ever, levy and receive an annual rent charge of 4*l.* per annum; and in default of payment thereof, to enter and distrain, &c.; and further, that the said feoffees, their heirs and assigns should yearly pay to the wardens of the several parishes of *St. Mary Arches*, *St. Olave*, *St. John*, and *Allhallows on the Walls*, in this City, at the Feasts of *Easter* and *St. Michael the Arch-Angel*, by equal portions, 20*s.* to the intent that the said wardens, by and with the consent of the sidesmen of their respective parishes for the time being, and in default of such consent, by and with the consent of the Mayor of the said City, and of the heirs of the said land, shall give and pay unto such poor maidens as shall happen to be married, in any one year, within any one of the respective parishes, being such as have served within the said parish wherein they shall so happen to be married the full term of two years, before the time of such marriage or marriages, the sum of ten shillings each. And if but one poor maid be married in any one several parish, in any one year, that then the said wardens, by and with the like consent, shall give and pay unto such maid, so to be married, twenty shillings. And if no such marriage should take place in any one year, the said annuity to be yearly kept in that parish until such marriage shall happen, which, with the arrears, to be paid to two maids respectively and equally, if married in any one year, in any one of the said parishes; and if but one, then she is to receive the whole.

*Robert Chave*, by Will, dated 20th November, 1675, bequeathed to the poor of this parish an annuity of two shillings yearly, to be for ever issuable out of a tenement in *St. Mary Arches's-lane*, in this parish.

*Christopher Lethbridge*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of this City,) by Will, dated 17th November, 1669, bequeathed to the poor of this parish an annuity or yearly rent of 3*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* to be paid quarterly, for, and during the term of 3000 years, issuing out of a dwelling-house, situated in the said parish, and appointed, according to his said Will, that the same should be bestowed in bread, by equal portions, every Lord's day, by the church-wardens of the said parish for the time being, and by them given to fourteen poor people, inhabitants thereof, such as they shall think fit objects; and if the said church-wardens shall think proper, so many may have it on the first Lord's day, and so many on the next; but his Will is, that the said bread be given to none but those that go to the Church, and remain there every Lord's day

**CHAP. VI.** *day, during the time of divine service, and sermon, (if any,) unless such as are hindered by infirmity or sickness; the same to commence immediately after his death; and if it be not paid as aforesaid, that then it shall be lawful to and for the said church-wardens, to enter into the premises charged with the said annuity, and to distrain for the same, with the arrears unpaid, (if any be,) and the distress and distresses there, from time to time, taken to detain and keep until the annuity so being behind, and the arrears thereof, be unto them fully satisfied and paid.*

*Nicholas Spicer, Esq. (twice Mayor,) by Deed, dated 7th March, 1609, (among other charities,) bequeathed an annuity of ten shillings yearly for ever, to be constantly bestowed to the reparation of this church.*

**Jew's Synagogue.** In an obscure corner, behind St. Mary Arches's Church, is the Jew's Synagogue, a small, plain, but neat edifice, erected in the year 1764. The congregation is but small, the resident families of Jews being few in number, and their travelling visitors not so numerous as they were some years since.\*

**Bluemaids' Hospital.** In the same lane, is situate the *Bluemaids' or Hele's Hospital*, an ancient house, with a battlemented roof. This hospital was founded by *Sir John Maynard, Kt.* as executor in trust of the Will of *Elizcus Hele, Esq.* who left a large estate for charitable purposes. Accordingly he purchased this house and garden, for the sum of 600*l.* being money arising from fines levied on estates in the manor of *Laurence Clist*, appropriating it as an Hospital for the maintenance and education of a certain number of poor girls. He also endowed the same with an annuity or rent charge of 50*l.* per annum, to be for ever issuable out of *Bovey Mills*, in the county of *Devon*. The said *Sir John Maynard*, also gave 500*l.* towards the erection of a Bridewell, or House of Correction for vagabonds, within this City, and he was a great benefactor also to *St. John's Hospital*.

*John Mayne*, of this City, Merchant, gave 100*l.* (in his lifetime,) towards the better support of this Hospital.

*Richard Ducke*, of Mount Radford, Esq. by Will, dated 21st July, 1656, bequeathed 50*l.* for the better support of this Hospital, to be paid out of his estate, in lieu of the expences which might occur from a pompous funeral; but which he desired might be plain and private.

*Edmund*

\* From all appearances, there was anciently an open lane of communication from this place through the George Inn yard into North-street; but it has long since been closed up with buildings.

*Edmund Prideaux*, Esq. also gave 100*l.* for the like CHAP. VI  
purposes.

*Simon Snow*, Esq. (besides his charities already mentioned to St. John's Hospital,) by Will, devised as follows: I give and bequeath to the Corporation of the City of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, all that brewhouse and malthouse, called the *Common Brewhouse*, lately erected near the *Ducking-Stool Mills*, in *Exe Island*, to be by their care and oversight managed for the public good of the said City, and particularly for the payment of 32*l.* per annum to four pensioners, called *Dr. Vilwayne's Pensioners*.\* He also further devised and ordered, that after the payment for all necessary repairs and disbursements, the said estates should stand in need of, and the following fees yearly, viz. to the Warden of the *Magdalen* 1*l.* 12*s.*; to the Mayor 10*s.*; to the Recorder 10*s.*; to the seven Justices of the Peace, each 6*s.*; to the Town-Clerk, for his trouble in making out and settling the annual accounts 5*l.*; to the Chamberlain 3*s.*; to the rest of the Common Council 15*s.* 2*d.*; and to the Sword-bearer and four Sergeants at Mace 8*d.* each; that after the expences occurring for the procuring of the King's Patent for establishing this Hospital be paid, and the annual discharge of the said pensions and salaries, the whole rents and profits of the said malt and brewhouse, with their appurtenances, remaining, should be for ever settled on and converted to the use of this Hospital, until there shall be a sufficient fund raised for the maintenance of forty poor maids therein; and that the choice and nomination of the said maids, be for ever invested in the then Chamber, and their successors; and after such provision made for the same forty maids, he further desired, that provision be made and raised for the binding out the said maids apprentices, and for portions for such of them as shall marry with the consent and approbation of the said Chamber, and their successors, and that none else should enjoy the benefit thereof.

Notwithstanding these great bequests to the Hospital, the number of poor girls educated therein amount to a small number, seldom exceeding ten, they are provided with food, cloaths, &c. and are taught reading, knitting, sewing and household work, to qualify them for servants, and at a proper age, are bound out apprentices, a small premium being given with them. Part of this Hospital is now appropriated to the use of one of the girls' charity schools, for this City.

Near

\* See St. John's Hospital.

CHAP. VI.Davy's  
Almshouses

Near the above-mentioned Hospital, are *Davy's Almshouses*, founded by *John Davy, Esq.* (who was Mayor three times,) for six poor people, viz. two married couple, and two single persons, men or women; the said founder also liberally endowed them with two tenements adjoining; a yearly rent of 6*s.* 8*d.* issuing out of the George Inn, in the parish of *St. Kerian*, in this City; the rectory or parsonage of *Morleigh*, (alias *Marion's leigh*,) in the county of *Devon*, with all the tythes and profits issuing therefrom, together with the parsonage-house, and two acres of land; and one other tenement, lately erected by him, in one corner of the church-yard; all these estates he conveyed to the Mayor of *Exeter*, six Aldermen, and eight other Members of the Common Council, as appears by his indented Deed, dated 10th February, 1599, to have and to hold the premises for two thousand years, upon trust, to perform certain ordinances annexed to the Deed, with provision, that if the trustees should willingly break any of the said ordinances within fourteen months next after warning in that behalf given by his heirs, that then it should be lawful for his heirs to re-enter, and bestow the same as the said trustees ought to do, until the trustees would amend the same; by which ordinances he appointed, that the trustees should demise the said rectory to the uttermost yearly value, not taking any fine, and that they should bestow on the Minister there, for the time being, all the profits which they should make thereof, over and above the yearly sum of 16*l.* 10*s.* and the reasonable charges and expences attending the same; that they should, from time to time, appoint a sufficient Minister to serve the cure there; that so often as any of the Almshouses should be void, the trustees, with the consent of the Mayor and Common Council, should place some other decayed people, of honest conversation, there, to remain during their lives, demeaning themselves well, to be chosen out of the poor inhabitants of the said City, and to be viewed in the Guildhall there, every of them to be of the age of 60 years at the least, and there inhabiting ten years before, and if no such people are to be found in the City, then in the County of the said City; that the trustees, weekly, on every *Saturday*, should pay out of the issues and profits of all the premises, unto each of the married couple 2*s.* 4*d.* and to the single persons 1*s.* 6*d.* each, for their better relief, and if any one of the said married couples should die, the surviving party to have only 1*s.* 8*d.* and the other 8*d.* to be divided among the rest, pole and pole alike; and if one or both of the married couples die, every of the poor to have 1*s.* 10*d.* each,

each, until a new choice shall be made, with direction, that if any of the said poor, being single, should marry, to loose their houses and pay; also to help one another in sickness; also to accompany one another to their burials, without reasonable cause of excuse; and not to beg, on pain of losing their contributions for a week; that the poor should be continually resident in their houses, and demean themselves orderly, on pain of expulsion; that for the better observing these ordinances, the said *John Davy* did appoint that the said Mayor and Common Council should, once every year at least, make enquiry whether the poor people do observe the said ordinances; and that when the number of the said trustees should be reduced within six, that they should assign over their estate in charge to ten others of the residue of the Common Council; that the said trustees should, yearly, bestow upon the poor of the parish of *Marleigh* 10s. that the overplus of the said premises (over and above the said weekly contribution,) the trustees should keep in a chest, for the reparation of the said houses, to be locked with three keys; and the writings concerning the premises to be kept also in that chest; the orders touching the election of the almspeople to be contained in a table, and to be read before the election of any almsman; that the trustees, yearly, on the 20th of October, should be called to give their accounts in writing, of, and concerning the premises, before the Mayor, Town-Clerk and Bailiffs for the time being, which should be entered into a book kept for that purpose by the Town-Clerk, for which labour the trustees is to pay to the Mayor 1s. to the Town-Clerk 1s. to the Bailiffs 4d. each, to the Sword-bearer and Sergeants 1d. each, and the book and overplus to be put into the said chest.

Over a doorway leading into the corn-market is a very remarkable armorial bearing, carved in wood, viz. on a shield, (the colours not emblazoned,) two calvary crosses in saltire, with a crozier in pale; it appears ancient, and was probably the arms of some religious community to whom the house belonged.

According to the late returns, there were in this parish 64 houses, (5 of which were uninhabited,) containing 93 families, in which were 160 males, and 218 females, in all 378 inhabitants.

Adjoining the last described parish is that dedicated to *St. Olave*. This church bears evident marks of antiquity, particularly the tower, which is of Saxon construction; it has three aisles and a vaulted roof, supported by six massy pillars; it is dark and gloomy; and, as divine service is not performed

D d d

CHAP. VI. formed in it, little attention is paid either to cleanliness or interior repairs. The tower, which is in front, is square, and at its summit are grotesque figures serving as spouts to convey the water from the leads; adjoining the tower is a flight of circular stairs leading to a small room over the gateway, once the habitation of the Romish rectors, but now occupied by the sexton. After the Norman conquest this church was given to the new-erected Abbey of *Battle*, in *Sussex*, and it continued part of its possessions until the dissolution of that Abbey, the rectors being generally members of the adjoining Priory of *St. Nicholas*. After the reformation, this benefice being small, and the income trifling, it remained many years without an incumbent; the parishioners uniting themselves with that of *St. Mary Arches*, and which still continues. After the revocation of the edict of Nantes, great numbers of the Protestants fled for refuge to this kingdom, and many of them settled in this City, who, on applying to the then Bishop for a place of worship, this church was granted to them; and for many years, divine service was performed in the *French Language*, by pastors of their own electing, the last of whom was the *Rev. Lewis Courtauld*, on whose death (about the year 1758,) the congregation having, through their long connexion and intermarriages with the natives, become incorporated with them, the further continuance of religious worship in the *French Language* was thought unnecessary, and this church was again shut up: since that, it was used at times by such regiments of soldiers as were quartered in the City, and their chaplains performed divine service in it; but this has been long discontinued, and it is *now* used only as a cemetery for a few families. It is a rectory in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, valued in the King's books at 7*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* per ann.\* certified value 18*l.*

In the year 1778, this church undergoing some repairs, the workmen found a number of octangular pieces of thin pasteboard, painted red on both sides, and on one side, within a circular border, was stamped this French inscription, "*Christ est le Pain de Vie.*" They were supposed to have been certificates, delivered by the priests after confession, to qualify the bearers to receive the holy eucharist.

On the north side is an antique monument, (with a Latin inscription much defaced,) erected to the memory of *John Acland*,

\* From this church's being dedicated to *St. Olave*, the first christian King of *Norway*, (who was martyred by his pagan subjects in the latter end of the ninth century,) it seems probable, that it was erected during the *Danish* usurpation over this kingdom, as he was held in great veneration by the Scandinavian nations.

*Acland*, descended from the ancient families of the *Aclands* and *Stapledons*, who died January, 1640. Part of the inscription runs thus, "*Hujusque civitatis senioris perit Custris.*" On the same monument is an inscription to the memory of *Margery*, daughter of *John Acland, Junr. Esq.* and wife of *Arthur Duck*, of *London*, merchant, who died the 8th of August, 1695. Against the north wall is an oval marble tablet, lately erected to the memory of *Henry Farrant*, late of this City, druggist, and of his brother, the *Rev. Robert Farrant*, rector of *St. Petrock*. This monument is so very injudicially placed in an elevated situation, and dark corner, that the inscription cannot be read without the help of a candle.

*Richard Beavis*, Gent. was a benefactor. See the foregoing parish of *St. Mary Arches*.

The Priory of *St. Nicholas* (already mentioned,) was situated in this parish; great part of the ancient building, particularly the Prior's lodgings, and some of the cells, are still remaining, and converted into a dwelling-house, lately inhabited by *N. E. Cosserat, Esq.* but modern alterations having been introduced into the structure, it has lost its gothic beauty, and is now in a ruinous state, 700 years having elapsed since its erection.\* Another part of this ancient structure has for many years been occupied by the Roman Catholic Priests, in which was a private chapel, where the citizens of that persuasion performed their devotions. On the late revolution in *France*, great numbers of emigrant priests fled for refuge to this country, where they were maintained and protected by the bounty of its inhabitants; many of whom resided in this City for some years. Part of them formed a religious community, and resided in this house until their return to their native land. The beautiful and sumptuous church belonging to this Priory was purchased soon after the reformation, by the Chamber of this City, who caused it to be demolished, and applied the materials towards the repairs of *Exe Bridge* and the City walls. On part of its scite, a Roman Catholic Church was built a few years since; this edifice is very neat,

D d d 2

but

\* We have no accounts to whom the buildings and scite of this Priory were granted at the reformation; but from its being different freeholds, the deeds of which reach no further back than the reign of *Edward the VI.* it was probably sold in different lots, the Chamber purchasing great part; and they are still proprietors of some of the lands, *St. Nicholas* and *Lammas fairs*, and the oat-market, which were part of its ancient demesnes.



**CHAP. VI.** but plain, and capable of holding a much larger congregation than at present frequent it. On digging for the foundation of this church, many remains of the ancient one were discovered, such as carved mouldings, parts of sepulchral monuments, mutilated inscriptions, &c. Adjoining, stands a large Dissenting Meeting-house, a plain and neat building; it is commonly called the *Arian Meeting*. The congregation is very numerous, and though they dissent in some particulars from their presbyterian brethren, it does not appear that they follow the doctrine of *Arrius*.

Arian  
Meeting

The lane which leads from the Fore-street to this Priory, has long been called the *Mint*, and, according to tradition, part of the old building was formerly used for coining; but at what time we are ignorant, (part of *Hele's* hospital, as has already been related, having been appropriated for that purpose during the reign of *William the III.*) and it is not probable that it has retained the name of the *Mint*, ever since the days of King *Athelstan*: that the liberty of coinage was often granted to the principal Abbies must be acknowledged, but we have no account that it was ever conferred on this Priory.\*

The Mint

St. Bartho-  
lemew's  
burying  
ground

*St. Bartholemew's* Burying Ground is contiguous, and was once the orchard and garden belonging to this Priory; it is bounded on one side by the City wall, on which is a pleasant walk, commanding a noble prospect. On a (designed) elevation of the parapet, is a large Portland stone tablet, on which is carved the arms of the diocese, impaled with *Hall's*, the arms of the City, and those of *Mallack*; and underneath is this inscription:

*Repositorum Dei fidelium Dormitorum. This Platte of Grounde was gyven by the cytte of Exon, fytted and encompassed by the concurrent charge of both the churche and cytte, with the carefull ovseeing of Mr. Roger Mallack, merchante, then maior, and was solemnly consecrated by the reverende Joseph Halle, then Lorde*

\* Before the introduction of copper coin in the reign of *Charles the II.* the principal tradesmen and shopkeepers made use of small pieces of brass money, stamped with their names and devices alluding to their several callings; these were called tradesmen's tokens, and served as small change; every shopkeeper, &c. keeping a box, in which were many partitions, which was termed a sorting box; in this box they lodged the tokens of different traders, and when they amounted to a certain sum, carried them to their issuers, who were obliged to exchange them for lawful coin; many of these tokens, of different inhabitants of this City, are still preserved; and probably the engine (or fly press) by which they were struck, was kept in this place; one machine of that kind being sufficient to supply the City and neighbourhood; and from this circumstance it might have obtained the name of the Mint.

*Lorde Bishophe of Exon, upon Sainte Bartholemewes Day: CHAP. VI.*  
*Auguste XXIIII. 1637.*

*Preciosa in conspectu Dei Mors Sanctorum.\**

On opening a grave, in the year 1762, a large blue marble stone was discovered deep sunk in the ground, on which was the following inscription:

Epitaph upon Captain Nicholas Vaughan, muster-master of the Train Bands, in the County of Devon, and the City of Exeter; who, in the execution of a warrant for taking away malignants' arms, designed for the assistance of rebellious forces, against King and Parliament, was treacherously slain by a shot out of a window, at Dunsford, in Devon, Dec. 11, and here interred Dec. 15, 1642.

Underneath this inscription is this armorial bearing, viz. on a shield, three boars' heads in pale, erased, (the colours not described,) and under the arms the following lines:

*Under this stone, good reader, lyes,  
 The man whose blood to Heaven cries,  
 Not like a foole or fettered slave,  
 But, Abner like, he went to grave.  
 In loyalty to just commands,  
 He fell by false and wicked hands.  
 This stone shall lye a monument,  
 To crye avenge this innocent.*

This stone is not injured by time, and from its high state of preservation, after a lapse of upwards of 120 years, to the time of its discovery, it is probable that it was purposely secreted by his friends, to prevent it being injured by the republicans, after the decline and ruin of the royal party. There are many handsome altar tombs in this burying ground, too numerous for a particular description; and near the City walls is interred the remains of the learned *Mr. Andrew Brice*, who, notwithstanding his pompous funeral, has neither stone nor memento to denote the spot, but his works will preserve his memory to future ages.

In this parish, according to the late returns, there were 97 houses, (6 of which were uninhabited,) containing 118 families, consisting of 252 males, and 314 females; total 566 inhabitants.

The parish of *St. John* is contiguous to that of *St. Olave*: the church is evidently an ancient structure, but no mention is made of it until the year 1222; when it appears in the list of parochial churches. The tower is square, with a circular projecting

\* The old inscription being much mutilated, a new stone was erected in its stead in the year 1798, in the mayoralty of John Belle, Esq.

CHAP. VI. projecting stair-case, battlemented at its summit, and crowned with a vane; in the tower are three small bells, and a clock with a double projecting dial, which may be seen at a great distance. This church is an irregular building, the floor being greatly elevated above the level of the street, and notwithstanding the parishioners have expended considerable sums in its improvement, it is low, incommodious, and incapable of containing a large congregation; so that the parishioners, with those of its united one of *St. George*, are greatly distressed for want of proper seats. The chancel, which is supported by an arch thrown over the adjoining street, (commonly called *St. John's Bow*,) is more elevated than the floor of the church. For the standing of this arch the parishioners pay an annual rent to the *Duke of Cornwall*, as Lord of the manor of this City. From the uncommon situation of this chancel on the N. E. side of the church, it seems very probable that it is of later erection; and that the original chancel was at the eastern end of the nave; but there is no record that mentions such an alteration; and it is rather surprising that the parishioners should saddle themselves with an annual expence for so small an addition to their church, when more room might have easily been procured. The whole of the building is paid great attention to, and is kept in good repair. Underneath part of the church is a small room, for many years appropriated to the use of a cobbler; but now, with more propriety, glazed, and altered into a vestry. This living was once appropriated to the Priory of *Plymton*, until its dissolution, when it fell into the King's hands, in whom it still remains, and is now held by sequestration by the *Rev. Theophilous Barnes*, Junr. certified value 18*l.* per annum.\* \*

The only monument deserving notice is fixed against the south wall, on which is this inscription:

In memory of *Sir Benjamin Oliver*, of this City, (who had the honour of being knighted, in the year of his maioralty, by King *Charles* the II. in his majesty's passage to *London*, from *Plymouth*, July 23d, 1671,) who departed this

\* A dispute took place this present year, (1804,) between the incumbent and parishioners, the origin of which was this;—the rector, who resides at *Pontefract*, in *Yorkshire*, neglecting to provide a regular curate, the parishioners, who paid very liberally, applied to him by letter, and complained how irregularly they were served, and saying further, that unless an alteration was made they would reduce their subscriptions to bare *dominicals*; the rector returned a peremptory order to the warden, with an injunction to his successor, (it being near *Easter*.) to lock up the church, and suffer no service to be held therein; this was complied with, but the dispute was soon amicably terminated.

life in the 71st year of his age, Nov. 2d, 1672. Also of Jane his wife, aged 66, who died July 7th, 1670; after they had lived together in a sober profession of religion and dear affection 44 years. Also of *Benjamin* and *Jane*, their grandchildren, the latter died March 6th, 1667, aged 3 years and 5 months, the other died December 26th, 1668, aged 6 years and half.

The following benefactions have been bequeathed to the poor of this parish.

Benefac-  
tions.

*Johanna Cole*, of *Bishop's Morchard*, widow, anno. 1640, gave 20*l.* to the intent that it should be bestowed in some convenient parcel of land, the rents and profits arising from the same, to be for ever applied towards purchasing linen cloth yearly, at Easter, for and towards clothing the aged and industrious poor of this parish.

*Novel Pearce*, anno. 1726, bequeathed to this parish 10*s.* yearly, for ever, issuing out of an estate in the parish of *All-hallows on the Walls*, then in the possession of *Mrs. Jane Cosserat*, to be distributed to four poor men of this parish at Christmas.

*Ester Langworthy*, anno. 1729, gave to the churchwardens of this parish 20*l.* in trust, to be put out at interest, the yearly produce thereof to be, for ever, applied for providing shifts for six poor widows of this parish, at Christmas.

*Ann Pitman*, anno. 1748, gave 10*l.* to be put out on good security, the interest thereof to be, for ever, applied to purchase shifts for three poor widows of this parish, who shall duly attend divine service and receive the holy sacrament, to be distributed yearly, on the 1st day of March.

*Thomas Potter*, late of this parish, fuller, who died the 24th September, 1695, by his last Will and Testament, (besides divers other charities,) bequeathed the sum of 735*l.* to be by his executors, bestowed in the purchase of lands, in fee-simple, the rents and profits of which should, for ever, be equally divided among eight poor *Tuckers* or *Weavers*, inhabitants within the City and County of *Exon*, such as do not receive parochial relief, except 40*s.* per annum, which was to be expended in a dinner, by the trustees thereof, at the annual distribution of the said money. Also, that no person who shall receive the benefit of this donation, shall not be a partaker thereof within five years after his so receiving the same. *Mr. William Baker*, executor of the said Will, purchased a messuage and tenement, with the appurtenances, of the tenure of *Old Barton*, at *Rillwith*, in the manor and parish of *Ottery St. Mary*; and one close of land lying at *Langthorn*, on the north part of the *Greenway*,  
leading

**CHAP. VI.** leading towards *Arrill's Hays*, containing three-quarters and half of an acre, or thereabout. Item. To *John Aymes*, and *John Sheers*, both of this City, 40s. each yearly, during their natural life, to be paid out of an estate in *Farringdon*, in the county of *Devon*, called the *North Fields*; and the residue thereof unto *Edward Dally*, son of *Edward Dally*, one of the trustees, during his natural life; and after their decease, the whole rents and profits to the only use and behalf of the said eight poor men, in addition to their gift aforesaid. He also gave, on the 8th of December, 1694, two silver flaggons for the use of the communion table.

*Mary Rigg*, late of this parish, widow, by Will, dated the 12th October, 1765, bequeathed 21l. to be placed out at interest, and the profits arising therefrom to be annually bestowed in good wheaten loaves, to be distributed among the poor of this parish every Christmas Day; but no one person shall receive a loaf exceeding 1s. in value.

*Richard Bevy*, of this City, merchant, by Will, dated the 22d August, 1603, bequeathed an annuity of 20s. a year, for ever, to be paid out of his lands in the several parishes of *St. Mary the Moor* and *St. Sidwells*, for the use of such poor maidens as shall be married in this said parish, after having served as a servant to any inhabitant of this said parish, for the space of two years, next and immediately before such day of marriage, which said money is to be equally divided among the claimants, if more than one.

*Edward Bartlett*, the elder, of this parish, serge-maker, by Will, dated the 25th August, 1778, and proved the 29th April, 1780, gave 10l. the interest whereof to be divided among ten poor people of this parish, who do not receive weekly pay, on every New Year's Day, for ever. For which sum and interest due thereon, being omitted to be paid, *Mr. Edward Bartlett*, his son and executor, paid the churchwardens 20l. November 3d, 1790.

Tuckers'  
Hall

The Hall belonging to the incorporated trades of Weavers and Fullers, (commonly called *Tuckers' Hall*), is in this parish; it was originally a chapel dedicated to one of the *Marys*, but since its dissolution it has undergone great alterations, and the only remains of its pristine state, is the arch'd entrance and vaulted roof; \* it is now divided into two large apartments, the under one being appropriated to a school, where a master, appointed by the elders of the corporation, has

\* In all probability, there was a cemetery belonging to this chapel, as many human bones have been dug up in the garden behind it, and according to tradition, the small area in front between the building and iron rails, has been used for the same purpose.

has a salary for teaching the sons of freemen belonging to the hall reading, writing and arithmetic, gratis. On the upper story is a large handsome hall, where the elders transact the business of the corporation, and also apartments for the schoolmaster. In this hall are some curious specimens of ancient warlike weapons, once the property of the company of merchant adventurers, now united to this corporation. They are possessed of several charities, which trust they carefully perform. They were first incorporated under the common seal of this City the 5th of *Henry* the VII. 1490, which charter was again renewed the 44th of *Elizabeth*, 1602. The merchant adventurers trading to *France*, were incorporated the 4th of *Mary*, 1556. The arms of the corporation of weavers, &c. is Party per Saltier, *Azure* and *Gules*, on the first two shuttles *Or*, on the second above a Brush, beneath a pair of shears *Argent*, on a chief *Ermine* a Slea, between two burling irons *Or*. The merchant adventurers, in consideration of the loyal service of the citizens in defending the said City against the rebels, in the reigns of *Henry* the VII. and *Edward* the VI. were re-incorporated by letters patent, dated 17th June, 1560, by the name of a governor and four consuls, in consideration of which, the said company (then consisting of 49 persons,) promised for themselves and successors, to give and bestow to twelve poor and impotent men of the said City twelve frieze gowns, viz. to each of them one, at the feast of Allsaints, for ever. This said charity is still continued by the corporation of tuckers and weavers, but in lieu of gowns they receive coats.

In Friernhay-lane are some small unendowed Almshouses, built by some of the *Speke* family; they are now under the patronage of *James White*, of this City, Esq.

According to the last returns, in this parish there were 77 houses, (5 of them uninhabited,) containing 107 families, in which were 230 males, and 391 females, in all 621.

The next parish is *Allhallows on the Walls*, from the church's having been situated on the City walls, it was demolished during the rebellion, and nothing but the outer walls and tower left; these were taken down to compleat the avenue to the new bridge, and the road is now on the scite of this ancient church. The tower, which was square, large and lofty, was built of a reddish stone, and from its situation, appeared to have been erected as an additional defence to the City walls, and it was converted to that purpose during the siege of the City by the Parliament army; the Royalists having placed a culverin on it, which greatly annoyed the besiegers, and occasioned the demolition of the

E c c

church,

*Allhallows*  
on the walls

**CHAP. VI.** church, though the tower received very little damage. The only sacred remains belonging to this edifice, are a very curious bible, and some old communion plate, (most of it pewter); these are annually delivered by the warden to his successor in office. The presentation of this church, which was a rectory in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, was valued in the King's books at 5*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* per annum, certified value 15*l.* It is now united to *St. Mary Steps*.

Benefac-  
tions.

Benefactions to the poor of the parish of *Allhallows on the Walls*.

*Elizabeth Bucknam* (see the parish of *St. Laurence*;) bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of Exon, a house, &c. situated in the parish of *St. Petrock*, for certain charitable purposes; one of which was, that they should pay and distribute annually to five poor householders of this parish 13*s.* 4*d.* viz. 2*s.* 8*d.* each.

*Sir John Ackland*, Kt. (among other charities to *St. Laurence* and *St. Sidwell*;) bequeathed the sum of 1*l.* 6*s.* to be equally distributed, sixpence weekly in bread, to six poor inhabitants of this parish.

The parishioners are also intitled to the benefaction of *Richard Beavis*, Esq. (see *St. Mary Arches*.)

*John Hurst*, Esq. late of this City, merchant, by Will, dated 16th November, 1552, devised six tenements, lying in this parish, to be for ever appointed as almshouses, for poor people to dwell in; he also endowed the same with six other tenements, a shop and a stable, situate in the parish of *St. Mary Arches*, to the intent that the whole rents and profits arising from the same, should be for ever appropriated towards the repairs of the said almshouses; and that the residue of the said rents and profits should be equally divided among the poor inhabitants of the said almshouses, for their better maintenance. He also gave 200 marks in money, to be paid to the said poor, by 2*s.* weekly; also 20 marks towards the amending of the highways; and 20 towards the making of the haven; with other sums, to pious uses.\*

In the year 1800, the number of houses in this parish were 89; 4 were uninhabited; 157 families; consisting of 302 males, and 367 females; in all 669.

The parish of *St. Mary Steps*, joins *Allhallows*, being situate part within, and part without the City walls. The church is small, and from its situation, at the foot of a steep hill, the floor is much elevated above the level of the street; from which, at the principal entrance, you ascend into the church

\* It is not mentioned who were appointed Trustees of this Gentleman's Will.

church by a flight of steps; and from this circumstance it obtained the adjunct appellation of *St. Mary Steps*; it is of a square figure, consisting of a nave, gallery and small aisle under the tower; the whole (which is much to the credit of the parishioners,) can scarcely be excelled for its clean and neat appearance; the pulpit is a fine piece of workmanship; on the top of the baldequin, is a gilt Angel sounding a trumpet, well executed; the pews are neat and regular, and the altar-piece carved and painted. The tower, which stands at the west end, contains four small bells and a curious clock, the dial of which is embellished with basso relievos, representing the four seasons; over the dial is a small statue of *Henry the VIII.* in a sitting posture, which, on the clock's striking the hour, bends forward its body at every stroke; on each side is a statue, in ancient military habit; their morions crowned with feathers; they hold in their right hands, javelins, and in their left, small hammers, with which they alternately strike the quarter hours, on two small bells placed beneath their feet. These figures are vulgarly called *Matthew the Miller\* and his two Sons*, and are much noticed by country people and strangers. Underneath the east end of the church is a vaulted room, formerly a guard-house for the soldiers who kept the gate opposite, and a lodge for the porters.†

CHAP. VI.

Benefactions to the poor of the parish of *St. Mary Steps*.  
*James Slade*, (sometime Sheriff of this City,) by Will, dated 12th July, 1671, bequeathed an annuity or yearly rent of 10*l.* per annum, to be for ever issuable out of a dwelling-house, wherein his brother *William Slade* then resided, as long as his estate remained therein. Benefactions.

In the front of the church was a stone bench, which extended from the watch-house to the entrance of the church, and supposed to be designed for the accommodation of the soldiers. This seat being much resorted to by idle and disorderly persons, obtained the name of *pennyless bench*,  
 E c c 2 and

\* This Matthew was an opulent Miller, who resided at *Cricklepit*, he was remarkable for his integrity, and regular course of life, and his punctuality of going at one hour for, and returning from the City with his grist, occasioned him to be so much noticed by the neighbourhood, that they knew exactly the hour of the day, by the time of his passing; and from this circumstance the statue received his name.

† Since the writer's memory, the whole of the City gates were constantly shut during the night; in winter, from nine in the evening to six in the morning; in summer, from ten to five; also on Sundays during divine service; which required the porter's attendance necessary, to open them for occasional passengers, who, on a slight examination, were suffered to pass, by giving him a small gratuity for his trouble.



CHAP. VI. and at length becoming a public nuisance, it was taken down about the year 1757. Opposite to the east end of the church, is a narrow, crooked lane, called *Parson's-lane*; at its upper end, is a small ancient house, once the humble habitation of the rector, but now divided into two tenements for poor widows, who are placed there by the wardens of the parish.

Opposite the church, stands the *Westgate* of the City; a very ancient, but mean structure, and inferior in point of architecture to the other City gates; it consists of a square tower, something loftier than the walls, without any projection on the outside, or flanking bulwarks; in this tower is an ill-contrived room, with a small window looking towards the suburbs; on the interior front is the remains of an inscription now obliterated: the entrance into the City is through an irregular pointed arch, and the whole has the appearance of remote antiquity; it has no insignia of arms or ornament remaining on it, and being now in a very ruinous state, will, in all probability, be soon taken down.

The ancient course of the river, formerly ran much nearer to this gate than at present, and a branch from it, still runs under the road at a few paces distant; the open space without the gate is called *Westgate-quarter*, near the centre of which, anciently stood a cross, called *Toisa's Cross*, long since demolished.\*

The return of this parish was 101 inhabited, and 4 uninhabited houses, containing 138 families, in which were 298 males, and 421 females, total 719.

St. Edmund The last parish that remains to be described in this City and County, is *St. Edmund*; the whole of this parish, (which is situated without the walls,) together with part of *St. Mary Steps*, forms the manor of *Exe-Island*, this manor (as before mentioned,) was the cause of long dispute between the ancient Earls of *Devon*, and the citizens, until it was given to the latter, and their right fully confirmed by *Edward* the VI. A. D. 1548. The whole of these lands appears to have been gained out of the river, as large stakes are often discovered in digging, and the soil, to some depth, consists of stratas of river sand and small pebbles. It is intersected by several branches and cuts from the river, very convenient for mills, dye-houses, &c. which occupy great part of it, and the inhabitants are mostly fullers, dyers, &c. The profits of the mills, tenter grounds, &c. bring in a great revenue

\* At the head of one of the piers of the old bridge, there was an ancient stone cross, curiously diapered; this cross was placed as a cut-water to preserve the pier, and probably might have been placed here after the reformation.

revenue to the chamber. The church, which is situated on that part of the old bridge, left standing, is dedicated to *St. Edmund*,\* and consists of a nave, and one aisle, with two galleries, one at the west end, and another over the aisle, extending the whole length of it, so that notwithstanding the smallness of the fabric, it is capable of containing a large congregation. The aisle is separated from the nave by a row of clustered columns. The communion table is enclosed by neat wooden balustrades; and the altar-piece well painted, the figures of Moses and Aaron are finely executed.† The pulpit is of good workmanship, and on the baldequin is the statue of an Angel, very highly gilt. In one of the windows, is the City arms, and in the others, are some fine remnants of painted glass, and which, having been properly arranged on their re-glazing, have a good effect. The pannels in the front of the western gallery, are painted with armorial bearings; and those on the side gallery, with figures of the apostles. The tower‡ is small, and not very lofty; it is crowned with a small spire, and vane; it has six bells, which, from their situation near the river, have a very pleasing sound; it also contains a good clock with chimes. The whole of the decorations and furniture of this small edifice, is kept in perfect repair, and in the neatest manner, the parishioners sparing no expence. The situation of this church on the arches of the bridge, does not admit of any funeral interments; the arch underneath it being now used as a cellar: it is a rectory in the presentation of the Mayor and Chamber, valued in the King's books at 10*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* per annum, certified value 28*l.* 10*s.* Present rector, *Rev. Richard Eastcott*.

The new bridge crosses the island, the level of which being much under that of the City, it was necessary to elevate the road to a great height, and the communication from the bridge to the area below, is by a long flight of steps, adjoining which, is a lofty arch that communicates with west-gate-quarter,

\* This *St. Edmund* was a petty King of the East-angles, who, in the year 871, bravely opposing the pagan Danes that invaded his dominions, was by them defeated and taken prisoner, and whom they afterwards most cruelly murdered in cold blood, at Hoxton, in Suffolk; after which, he was canonized, and held in great veneration by the *Anglo Saxons*.

§ This altar-piece was painted in the year 1755, by Mr. *Hooker*, an ingenious native of this City.

† In 1800, during a violent storm of thunder, this tower was struck by lightning, which shivered the dial to pieces, and forced some stones out of the foundation; but no other damage ensued, though several people were passing by at that instant.

CHAP. VI. gate-quarter, and the island, (commonly so called;) this is an open piece of ground, railed round, gravelled, and surrounded with genteel houses; from this place there are several avenues to the Bonhay, a pleasant river island, regularly planted with lofty elms, forming agreeable walks, where, even in the hottest weather, the refreshing breezes from the river are highly exhilarating.

Just below the bridge, the river forms another island, round which is a pleasant walk, capable of great improvement, if the number of them in the vicinity of the City did not make it unnecessary; this island is called the Shelhay, and is now full of racks, being used as a tenter ground. A scheme is now planned for cutting a canal through the Shelhay, and building a street, with large warehouses, for the better accommodation of the merchants, &c. This, if carried into execution, will greatly improve the Chamber's estates.

On the east end of the old bridge, *John Moor* and *Bartholomew Fortescue*, Esqrs. founded three small almshouses, for the habitations of three poor persons, but it is not known that any endowment was ever made for their support; they left the government and nomination of the poor persons to be therein, to the Mayor and Chamber, and their successors for ever, as appears by an order made 11th March, 1520. These houses are still standing, and repaired by the Chamber.

According to the returns, there are in this parish 216 houses, of which 10 were uninhabited; containing 283 families, in which were 405 males, and 513 females; in all 918 inhabitants.

Having completed the parochial description of the City, it will be necessary, before I proceed to those of the adjacent parishes, to give an account of such benefactions and legacies as have been bequeathed to the citizens in general, and which have not been mentioned in the parochial description.

General  
Benefac-  
tions.

A list of benefactions to the citizens in general.

*John Talbot*, Esq. (twice Mayor of this City,) by Will, dated the 9th of *Henry* the V. 1420, bequeathed to the Mayor and Commonalty, the reversion of a tenement, situate in the High-street, in the parish of St. Martin, opposite the guildhall, then an inn, called the Eagle; the rent of which, was to be appropriated, for ever, towards bringing water to the conduits or cisterns of the said City, through pipes of lead, and to the repairing of the same.

*John Slugg*, by Will, dated the 2d of *Henry* the VII. 1496, gave an annuity of 20s. yearly, to be, for ever issuable out of a house in the High-street, sometime inhabited by

by *William Hurst*, merchant, and situate below the great conduit; the said annuity to be bestowed in twenty dozen of bread, and given to the poor of the said City, on the eve of St. John the Baptist, yearly. CHAP. VI.

*Thomas Catwoodley*, Esq. (thrice Mayor,) by Deed indented, dated 30th April, 6th of *Henry the VII.* 1491, did give and grant to certain feoffees and their heirs, his manor of *Awliscombe*, with all its rights, members and appurtenances whatsoever, situate in the county of *Devon*, to the use of the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of the City of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, in help and ease of the poor citizens and inhabitants thereof, as well as fee farm rents due to the King, and of other payments, impositions and taxes, and other pious uses therein mentioned; all which the said King confirmed under his privy seal.\*

*William Obleigh*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by Will, dated 10th August, 1510, bequeathed all his lands and tenements, in *Swithin-street*, in this City, to *Robert Mayne* and *Catherine* his wife, and to the issue of the said *Catherine*, and for want of such issue, to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of *Exeter*.

*Thomas Andrew*, Esq. (twice Mayor,) infeoffed *John Row*, Esq. serjeant at Law, and *Sir Thomas Dennis*, Kt. with divers lands and tenements, situate in this City, to certain pious uses, as appears by his Will, dated 23d April, 1517, therein declaring, that the sum of 14*l.* yearly, should be bestowed out of the said lands by his executors, to find a chaplain, and to be distributed, every year, to twelve poor men, as in the said Will was set forth; which Will was proved in the Proctors' Court, at *Canterbury*, 13th Dec. 1529; and afterwards, for the better performance of the said Will, *John Blackaller*, Gent. one of the executors, by Deed, dated 3d September, 1572, did give and grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. their successors and assigns, for ever, all those messuages, lands and tenements aforesaid, with their appurtenances, to maintain and sustain twelve poor men, according to the contents of the said Will, with a covenant from the grantees, that the grantor, his heirs and assigns, should receive the issues and profits of the said lands so long as he, his heirs and assigns, should, in all things, fulfil the said Will. And afterwards, *Sir Thomas Dennis* aforesaid, by his Deed Tripartite, dated 6th September, 1594, enfeoffed and confirmed to *Gilbert Blackaller*, his heirs

\* This Manor of *Awliscombe*, is now of considerable value; it produced, near sixty years since, 40*l.* per annum, upon an average; and a well-informed gentleman assured the author, that its present valuation is upwards of 12,000*l.*

**CHAP. VI.** heirs and assigns, divers tenements, in several parishes, in this City; on condition of the said *Gilbert Blackaller's* distributing, yearly, out of the rents and profits of the said premises, one yearly rent or annuity of 14*l.* to be employed and distributed, yearly, unto, and upon twelve poor people, inhabiting within the said City, according to the true intent and meaning of the said *Thomas Andrew's* last Will. And the said *Gilbert Blackaller*, for himself and his heirs, by the same indenture, did further give, grant and agree to, with the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty, (the third party to the said indenture,) that if the said annuity of 14*l.* and every part thereof, should not, yearly, be paid to the said poor people, that then it shall be lawful for them to enter into the said premises, and distrain, and the distress to detain, until the same be paid for the end aforesaid; which said deeds remain in the council chamber of this City, and where the said Will was also enrolled, 6th November, 1531. That part of these lands being afterwards conveyed by indenture, dated 6th October, 1698, by *Gilbert Blackaller*, and others, unto *Thomas Achym*, Esq. and his heirs, who, for many years, performed the said Will, but afterwards failing, a commission was sued forth out of the Court of Chancery, upon the statute of charitable uses, whereupon this agreement between the Commissioners and the said *Mr. Achym* was concluded, viz. that *Mr. Achym* should pay the arrears of the said gift, being the sum of 30*l.* and that he and his heirs, for the future, should and would, fourteen days, yearly, before Christmas, pay unto the said Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty, the said sum of 14*l.* according to the Will of *Thomas Andrew*, and the ends aforesaid.

*John Gilberd*, Esq. founded an almshouse near *Newton Bushell*, in the county of *Devon*, for the habitation of three poor-lazar people, towards whose maintenance, by his tripartite Deed, dated 4th October, 1538, he granted three cottages and two closes in land, in the parish of *Drewsteignton*, unto the Mayor and Commonalty of *Exeter*, and their successors for ever, in consideration whereof, and of the sum of 220 marks to them paid, they covenanted to repair the said houses, and to pay the said houses, and to pay the said poor therein, the sum of 4*l.* yearly, by quarterly payments.

*Laurence Atwill*, citizen and skinner of London, a native of this City, descended from a genteel family, whose ancestors had often borne the office of magistracy, particularly his grandfather, who had been mayor five times of this City, in the reigns of four successive Monarchs, viz. *Edward the IV.* *Edward the V.* *Richard the III.* and *Henry the VII.*

After

After repeated revolutions of fortune, attained a great estate; CHAP. VI.  
 which, in gratitude to the Almighty who had thus blessed  
 his endeavours, (he having no issue,) by Will, dated 6th  
 November, 1588, (among divers other legacies to charitable  
 uses,) bequeathed divers lands and tenements, situate in the  
 several parishes of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, *Whitstone* and  
*Ufcuim*, in the county of *Devon*, which he had purchased in  
 the name of *Thomas Spicer*, Esq. then one of the Aldermen  
 of this City, the high rents of which were then valued at  
 11*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* per annum; appointing by his said Will, that  
 those lands should be conveyed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and  
 Commonalty of the City of *Exeter*, to the intent, that out of,  
 and with the rents and profits, of the same, there should be  
 accumulated a stock of money, which by the Mayor and  
 Aldermen of the said City, should be employed in raising a  
 stock of money for setting and keeping the poor people of  
 the said City in some kind of work, or employment; and  
 yet the stock not to be diminished in any manner, but  
 rather encreased by the revenues of the said lands for ever.\*

*Sir Thomas White*, Kt. citizen and merchant taylor, of  
 London, (sometime Lord Mayor,) a great encourager of  
 learning, and liberal benefactor to the poor, among divers  
 acts of charity, gave to the Mayor, Burgesses and Com-  
 monalty of the City of *Bristol* 2000*l.* for purchasing an in-  
 heritance of 120*l.* yearly value for ever, which rent he  
 ordered and appointed by them to be paid and delivered unto  
 the following cities and towns, one after the other as they  
 are named, who are to receive the same at merchant taylors'  
 hall, in London, every one of them 104*l.* upon the feast-day  
 of *St. Bartholemew*, between the hours of two and six in  
 the afternoon, to be put forth to four young men of every of  
 the said cities and towns, being freemen thereof, (clothiers  
 always to be preferred before others,) that is to say, to every  
 of them 25*l.* to have and to occupy the same for the term of  
 ten years freely, upon good security for the re-payment of  
 the same; and then to be put out again to such others for  
 the same time, and so on from ten years, to ten years for  
 ever; and after the said following twenty-four cities and  
 towns, viz. 1. *Bristol*; 2. *York*; 3. *Canterbury*; 4. *Reading*;  
 5. *Merchant Taylors*; 6. *Gloucester*; 7. *Worcester*; 8. *Exeter*;  
 F f f 9. *Salisbury*;

\* This donation was for many years abused, and the lands alienated  
 on long leases; in the year 1730, upwards of 30 years' arrears were then  
 in the hands of Mr. Alderman Hickman, the accomptant, but in the  
 year 1772, the chamber erected and endowed twelve almshouses, for  
 decayed woollen manufacturers, with the stock and profits arising from  
 those lands. (See page 356.)

CHAT. VI. 9. *Salisbury*; 10. *Westchester*; 11. *Norwich*; 12. *Southampton*; 13. *Lincoln*; 14. *Winchester*; 15. *Orford*; 16. *Hereford*; 17. *Cambridge*; 18. *Shrewsbury*; 19. *Lynn*; 20. *Bath*; 21. *Derby*; 22. *Ipswich*; 23. *Colchester*; 24. *Newcastle-upon-Tyne*; have in their several courses received the said 10*l.* Then the same course to begin again at *Bristol*, as before, and so continue for ever; and the said 4*l.* over and above the 100*l.* are to be given to the surveyors of every such city or town, for their care and pains, to see the due execution thereof, provided, that what city or town do make any default on observing this order, *the same city or town to loose the benefit thereof for ever thereafter.\**

*Joan Tuckfield*, widow of *John Tuckfield*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of *Exeter*;) by Will, dated 14th June, 1568, bequeathed several lands and tenements to charitable uses; first to the corporation of taylors of this City, (as already mentioned;) also to twenty poor maidens a noble each; and whereas there were certain good debts due to her to the value of 300*l.* she appointed by the same Will, that the same sum should be paid to the Mayor and Receiver of the said City, to the Master and Wardens of the same company of taylors, and to the Governor and Treasurer of the company of merchant adventurers, of the said City, for the time being, or their deputies, to be employed for the following uses, that is to say, that on the 20th day of July, yearly for ever, they shall deliver the same unto such of the inhabitants and freemen of the said City as to them shall seem convenient, by 5*l.* or more, under 20*l.* for the space of two full years, by bond, paying 1*s.* for the same, and 20*s.* yearly, to the said trustees for their trouble, to be paid by her feoffees out of the said lands. Also, she gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of the said City, two tenements, the one in the parish of *St. Petrock*, then in the possession of *Mr. Nicholas Savery*, merchant, and the other in *St. Stephen's* parish, then divided into two dwellings, one being in the possession of *John Gandy*, and the other of *Richard Reynett*, harber, to this intent, that there should be given and delivered 100 dozen of bread, to the poor inhabitants of the said City, and suburbs of the same, to the sum of 5*l.* viz. 50 dozen in the week before *Easter*, and 50 dozen in the week before *Christmas-day*, yearly for ever, to be carried to the dwelling-houses of the said poor people, in the presence of the Mayor and

\* *Exeter* received this donation in its turn, in the year 1802, and it was distributed according to the Will of the Donor, notice of its distribution having several times previously been advertised in the public papers, by order of the chamber. Signed *H. Ley*, town-clerk.

and Trustees; and 1*l*. residue to the said Mayor and Trustees for their trouble. And afterwards, by her Deed, dated 31st August, in the same year, she gave and granted to twelve scoffees, their heirs and assigns, for ever, all those tenements and shops, with the appurtenances adjoining, in the parish of *St. Martin*, near the *Broadgate*, then in possession of *Edward Spicer*, goldsmith, *Nicholas Etwill*, and *William Warren*, confectioners, to the uses in a schedule annexed, specifying, that the said scoffees, with the rents, revenues, issues and profits thereof, should cause to be made and delivered to twelve poor women, inhabitants of the said City and County of the same, yearly, against the feast of *Christmas*, 12 frocks of frize, apt and meet for their bodies; and yearly, against the feast of *Easter*, 12 smocks of new linen cloth, to be made and delivered unto them, or to such others, according to the distinction of the said scoffees; and that they shall yearly, at the following feasts, viz. the *Ascension of our Lord*, *Pentecost*, *Midsummer*, the *Nativity of our Lady* and *Allsaints*, should distribute of the said rents, 1*s*. to twelve poor women of the said City, at their discretion, viz. to every of them at every of the said feasts, 1*d*. and so to do and continue for ever; and that an account be made thereof yearly, on the 20th day of October; and appointed 1*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. for fees to the said scoffees. Also, that if any of them are not present at the settling the said accounts, their shares, with all the other overplus of the said rents that shall then remain unbestowed, should be from time to time disposed and distributed among the poor people of the said City, as the scoffees shall think good, whereof the said scoffees are to be accountable.\*

*Alice Macey*, widow, by Will, dated 1578, bequeathed the sum of 50*l*. to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exeter*, to be lent unto poor tradesmen for three years, giving good security for the re-payment,†

*John Bettis*, of *Exe-Island*, dyer, by Deed, dated 8th March, 1569, granted to the Mayor, &c. and to their successors for ever, an annuity or yearly rent of 5*l*. to be issuing out of certain lands, tenements and hereditaments lying in *Exe-Island*, (late the inheritance of *Christian Chapman*, widow, deceased,) being an Inn, called the *Bell*, then in possession of *Sabina Holder*, widow, and divers other tenements there, which were afterwards purchased by *William Martin*, Esq. as chantry lands, to be paid at the four most

F f f 2

usual

\* This charity is but partly fulfilled. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 159.)

† This is decayed.



CHAP. VI. usual feasts of the year, by equal portions, with a condition therein contained, that if the said annuity should be behind hand, or unpaid in part, or in the whole, the granter or his heirs should forfeit 10s. with power to distrain, as well for the said annuity as for the penalty. This grant was made to fulfil the Will, &c. of *Christian Chapman*, as by several Deeds made by her and her scoffees, still remaining in the councilchamber, fully appears.

*John Peryam*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by Will, dated 1571, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty the sum of 100*l.* to be lent, free of interest, to two young merchants of the said City for four years; and to continue so for ever.\*

*Thomas Prestwood*, Esq. (who died during his Mayoralty,) by Will, dated 13th December, 1576, gave to the corporation of merchants in this City, the sum of 40*l.* either for building an almshouse for four poor people, or for providing some yearly rent towards their relief, which said poor persons were to be elected by the Mayor and Bailiffs of the said City for the time being.

*Thomas Chappel*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by Will, dated 22d August, 1589, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. the sum of 30*l.* to be paid within three years after his decease, by instalments of 10*l.* yearly, on the 20th day of July, upon trust, that after the receipt thereof, the Mayor and Receiver, Governor and Treasurer of the company of merchants, and the Master and Wardens of the taylor of the said City of Exeter, on the 20th day of July, should yearly, deliver forth the same unto six inhabitants, freemen of the said City, as to the most part of them should seem meet, by 5*l.* each, for three years, upon good sureties, as Mrs. Tuckfield's money is limited, and so to be continued for ever.

*Joan Cleveland*, widow, of this City, by her last Will, dated 24th May, 1599, bequeathed as follows, viz. that out of her estate, the sum of 20*l.* should be yearly, paid to the Mayor for the time being, upon the 20th of June next after her decease, and so to continue for ten years, until the sum amounted to 200*l.* to be employed for the benefit of young beginners in trade, artificers of the said City, for ever; and that the Mayor should put out the money so paid in, to poor artificers, on the 20th of July, yearly, from year to year, putting in good securities for the re-payment of the same, in such manner, and as nearly agreeable as possible to the Will of Mrs. Joan Tuckfield, deceased, (sometime her mistress;) and that 100*l.* of the said 200*l.* should be

\* This money was received, but not applied. (*Rights and Privileges.*)

be lent to poor taylors; and the other 100*l.* to other artificers, with provision, that such as should have any of the said money should not receive less than 5*l.* nor more than 10*l.* each.\*

CHAP. VI.

*Hugh May*, of the parish of *St. Laurence*, in this City, baker, by Will, dated 16th September, 1592, appointed that the Mayor and Bailiffs thereof should receive from his executors 60*l.* and that the said Mayor, &c. with the consent of the masters of the corporations of *Tuckers*, *Weavers*, *Shoe-makers*, and *Haberdashers* of the said City, should deliver the said 60*l.* unto two poor artificers of the said corporations, and not unto any other, by 5*l.* or 10*l.* and no more to one person; taking bond for every of them, with two or three sufficient securities for re-payment of the same, at the end of four years after the delivery thereof; and for payment of 6*d.* in the pound, 30*s.* in the whole, yearly, as interest thereof, to the use of the poor of the said City, to be distributed to them on the 24th of March, yearly, either in money or victuals, at the discretion of the Mayor, by the hands of the Bailiffs, or one of them, to be so continued for ever. And if the Mayor and Bailiffs should refuse or neglect to perform the same within six months after his decease, then he willed, that *Thomas Chase*, Gent. and *Jasper Horsey*, merchant, should perform the same.

*Peter Blundell*, of Tiverton, clothier, by Will, dated 9th July, 1599, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exeter* 900*l.* to be paid by his executors immediately after his decease, to be for ever continued to the uses following, 500*l.* the said Mayor, &c. should for ever, on the Wednesday next after the feast of *St. Michael the Archangel*, put forth until the Wednesday next after the fourth feast of *St. Michael*, then also next following, that is to say, for four years, to twenty-five such poor artificers and handicraft, of honest reputation, continual dwellers and householders within the said City, and suburbs of the same, as to the said Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty should be thought meet, that is to say, to each of them 20*l.* taking good security, such as they will answer for, for the re-payment of the principal, and also for 2*l.* per cent. per annum as interest for the same; and if any decay should happen to be made by death or otherwise, supply to be made with other assurance, as to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. shall be thought proper. The other 400*l.* to be lent unto twenty artificers, *Weavers* and *Tuckers*, of the town of *Tiverton*, and in default of such, to others of honest trades, dwellers and householders

\* This charity is not fulfilled. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 43.)

CHAP. VI. holders in *Tiverton* aforesaid, in like manner as before is *Exeter*; the said 400*l.* always to be delivered by ten of the inhabitants of *Tiverton*, taxed most to the subsidy, should be nominated to the Mayor, &c. of *Exeter* aforesaid, twelve weeks at least, before the day limited for putting forth the same, having good security; and then the same to be put forth to twenty such persons of *Tiverton*, as to the said Mayor, &c. shall be thought proper as aforesaid; and as for the 18*l.* interest, to be received yearly, he willed that so long as there should be no decay of the said 900*l.* the same should be employed as follows, viz. to the Town-clerk 40*s.* for writing and keeping the accounts, (for that no premium should be taken from any party receiving any of the said stock, or fees for making his assistance,) and the 16*l.* residue, to the said Mayor, &c. for and towards their trouble in disposing and preserving the said stock, and towards a supper, always on the said Wednesday limited for the receipt of the said money, to be taken where they think fit; and towards one dinner to them yearly, on *St. Peter's Day*, in remembrance of him; and towards such other good uses as shall be thought proper; but when any decay shall be made of any of the said stocks, then to go to the supply of every such decay, until the said stock and stocks shall be made good again, and that course to be observed for ever. Further, that if the said Mayor, &c. should not accept the charge of the premises, that then his executors should discharge the same; and if any borrower should make default of repayment, that then he, nor any of his ever afterwards should have any benefit of the same; and that no *Baker, Brewer, Butcher, Taylor, Inn-keeper, Vintner, Tanner, Ale-seller*, or seller of any kind of wares, should be capable of having any part of the said money.\*

*Christopher Spicer*, of this City, merchant, by Will, dated 17th October, 1599, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exon*, the sum of 100*l.* to be paid by his executors in three succeeding years after his decease, upon condition, that they should deliver 40*l.* of it to eight *Weavers*, dwelling in the county of the said City, viz. to each of them 5*l.* at the same time when they deliver forth *Mrs. Tuckfield's* gift; and the same course to be kept for ever, provided, that if the said Mayor, &c. do refuse or neglect to perform this trust,

\* This donation is not fulfilled, the Author of the Rights and Privileges of the Freemen of *Exeter* mentions that he was then in possession of the chamber bond, given to his grandfather in the year 1688, for 500*l.* of the said money. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 22.)

trust, then the said 100*l.* to be paid to the Governor, Consuls and society of Merchants, to be disposed of as aforesaid.† CHAP. VI.

*William Spicer*, likewise of this City, merchant, by Will, dated 1st June, 1604, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty 60*l.* to be lent by 5*l.* each, to twelve poor *Weavers or Tuckers*, inhabitants and freemen of the said City, in such manner as *Mrs. Tuckfield's* money is disposed of.‡

*Nicholas Spicer*, Esq. (twice Mayor,) by Deed, dated 7th March, 1609, granted unto twelve feoffees, all his messuages, called *Slowe* otherwise *Slowe Lake*, in the parish of *Halberton*, in the County of *Devon*, to hold to the said trustees, their heirs and assigns for ever, to the use of the said *Nicholas* and *Honor* his wife; and after their decease, upon trust for the payment of a yearly rent charge of 20*l.* unto *Eleanor Brayley*, during her life; and one pound's worth of bread, to be distributed to the poor people of this City, at or about the feast of *Easter*, at their houses; and of 10*s.* yearly, towards the reparation of the parish church of *St. Mary Arches*, in this City; another 10*s.* yearly, towards the reparation of the parish church of *Halberton* aforesaid, for ever; and of 2*l.* for the better maintenance of candle-lights, in the dark nights, between the feasts of *Allsaints* and the *Purification of the blessed Virgin Mary*, to be placed and set up in such convenient places of the said City, as the Mayor and Aldermen should think fit, and to be kept burning from the hours of six to ten at night; and of 6*s.* 8*d.* yearly, to the night bellmen, for ever; and during the life of the said *Eleanor*, for the loans from time to time, of the residue of the issues and profits of the said messuages, to such of the freemen of the said City, as the Mayor and Aldermen should think proper, by 5*l.* or 10*l.* to each, for four years, or under, on good security for the re-payment of the same; and after the decease of the said *Eleanor*, for the disbursements for ever, of the residues of the issues and profits of the said messuages, to such of the freemen of *Exeter*, as likewise by the Mayor and Aldermen shall be thought fit, by 10*l.* or above, to 21*l.* to each, for four years, or for a less time, on good security for re-payment, as before; and

† This donation is decayed. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 144.)

‡ Decayed also. (*Ibid.*)—It might be here mentioned, that the decay of these and other considerable charities ought not to be attributed to the present members of the chamber, they having been sunk through the negligence and avarice of their predecessors, for many years past; however, gratitude to the memory of those worthy and liberal benefactors to the wants of their poor fellow citizens, and justice to the present age, impels me to give a just and correct account of such benefactions, as far as they have come to my knowledge.

**CHAP. VI.** and also for payment of the fees following, viz. to the Mayor, yearly, 1*l.*; to the Recorder 10*s.*; to the Receiver and Stewards, each 1*s.*; to the Sword-bearer 1*s.*; to each of the Sergeants 8*d.*; to the Town-clerk, for keeping the accounts, 10*s.*; and to the Chamberlain 3*s.* 4*d.* for their trouble in and about the performance of the said trust, and procurement of an acco<sup>m</sup>pt yearly, for ever, on the 12th day of December, to be made; and afterwards, by his Will, dated 21st December, 1611, he desired that his feoffees should, for ever, on *Good Friday*, deliver and give in bread 1*l.* to the poor of *Halberton* aforesaid, and 1*l.* to the poor of this City.\*

*Hugh Atwill*, clerk, in the year 1602, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of this City, (in trust,) the sum of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be lent out to one or more artificers, of the said City, for three years, *gratis*, and so from three years to three years, for ever.†

*Jane Hewet*, of Huxham, in the county of *Devon*, widow, by Will, dated 29th September, 1603, bequeathed to the Chamber of the City of *Exon*, the sum of 10*l.* to be employed to such good uses as *Mrs Joan Tuckfield's* money was; which said sum was paid in by *Thomas Pengelly*, her executor, the 20th June, 1605.

*Nicholas Hurst*, of Exton, in the county of *Devon*, Esq. by Will, dated 22d June, 1604, bequeathed to the poor of this City, the sum of 40*l.* to be continued as a stock, and employed by the direction of his executor; which said bequest being for many years concealed from the Chamber, and the payment thereof delayed on demand, it was recovered on the statute of charitable uses, with 30*l.* damages, for interest due thereon, the sum of 6*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* being expended on its recovery, and deducted the sum of 63*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* remaining was 30*l.* duly brought into the Chamber, and paid *Mr. Walter Borough*, then Mayor.

*John Plea*, late of this City, merchant, by Will, dated 23d May, 1609, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. and to their successors for ever, an annuity or yearly rent of 6*l.* issuing out of two tenements in *Lyme Regis*, in the county of *Dorset*, to be paid quarterly by his heirs, in equal portions, with power to distrain, if the annuity be unpaid for two months, after being demanded, then the lands to be the property of the legatees aforesaid for ever; to this intent, that

\* This charity has been discontinued about 80 years, the rents whereof were then received by Mr. Alderman Dewdney, the then acco<sup>m</sup>ptant. (*Rights and Priviledges*, page 148.)

† Sunk upwards of 60 years

that the said annuity of 6*s.* or the said tenements, (the annuity CHAP. VI.  
being unpaid, and all the profits thereof,) should be by the  
said legatees, spent and employed only towards a Lecturer,  
or Preacher of "God's Word," in the cathedral church of  
*St. Peter*, in *Exeter*, or elsewhere in the said City, at morn-  
ing prayer, or in the afternoon, or at both these times, upon  
the Sabbath day; or towards erecting, founding, and main-  
taining an Hospital within the county of the said City, at  
the election and charge of the said Mayor, &c. of *Exon*, for  
the time being, and to no other use whatever.

*Sir John Acland*, of *Columb John*, in the county of *Devon*,  
Kt. by his Deed, dated 2d January, 1609, gave to the  
Mayor, &c. of *Exon*, the sum of 55*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* towards  
binding out fourteen poor boys, and six poor maids, ap-  
prentices, born in the said City and County of *Exon*, in  
such manner and sort, as shall be thought by the said *Sir*  
*John Acland*, (during his life,) and the said Mayor, &c. to  
be most fitting and convenient; and after his death, by the  
said Mayor, &c. only in such manner and sort as the said  
*Sir John Acland* has already, or shall, by his Will and Testa-  
ment under his hand and seal, set down and appoint, for  
the continual binding out of twenty such poor apprentices  
as aforesaid; five marks to be always delivered out with  
every apprentice boy to his master, and the like with every  
maid. And afterwards, the said *Sir John Acland*, by Will,  
dated 14th September, 1609, confirmed the same; and  
ordered, that the said apprentices, at the time of their bind-  
ing out as aforesaid, should not exceed the age of fifteen  
years, and that at the end of the same term, their respective  
masters should repay 20*s.* unto the said apprentices. Also,  
he enfeoffed certain members of the chamber in trust, with  
the rectory and sheaf of *Churchstow* and *Kingsbridge*, in the  
county of *Devon*, for and towards the purchasing bread, for  
the poor of the undermentioned parishes, in this City and  
County, viz. *St. Sidwells*, yearly, 2*l.* 12*s.*; *St. Mary Major*  
2*l.* 12*s.*; *Holy Trinity* 2*l.* 12*s.*; *Allhallows*, Goldsmith's-  
street, 1*l.* 6*s.*; *St. Laurence* 1*l.* 6*s.*; and to the Town-clerk  
of the said City, also yearly, 1*l.* Provided that if the church-  
wardens of the several parishes, do not bring in their several  
accompts, yearly, to the Mayor and Recorder of *Exeter*,  
then the said parishioners are to lose their next year's pay,  
which, by the Mayor, Recorder and two eldest Justices of  
the said City, is to be distributed to the two next adjoining  
parishes. He also bequeathed 16*l.* per annum for the main-  
tenance of two scholars in *Exeter College*, in *Oxford*, to be  
appointed and approved of by the Mayor of the said City,  
G g g Recorder,

**CHAP. VI.** Recorder, School-master of the high school there, the Rector of *Exeter College* aforesaid, and the owner of *Columb John*, or any three of them.

*John Berryman*, of *Bishopstowton*, in the county of *Devon*, Gent. by Will, dated 20th November, 1614, bequeathed unto the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. of this City, the sum of 100*l.* upon good security to be given to his executors, to the intent, that they and their successors should, from time to time, lend the same to ten poor men, by trade *Weavers* or *Tuckers*, inhabitants of the said City, viz. to every one of them 10*l.* taking good security for the repayment of the same; and that at the end of every year, the said sum shall be received in, and again put forth in like manner for one whole year, and no longer, and so to continue for ever.\*

*Laurence Bodley*, D. D. one of the canons residentiary of this cathedral, by Will, dated 1615, devised as follows: I do will, and by this my last Will and Testament, I give and bequeath to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of the City of *Exeter*, the sum of 400*l.* of lawful money of England, to be paid by my Executors within four months after my decease, to the use, intent and purposes hereafter expressed and herein set down, that is to say, my will and desire is, that they with the 400*l.* do within one year after my decease, procure and purchase as much land in fee-simple, as shall be yearly worth, for ever, the sum of 20*l.* yearly, to be received for the continual and yearly maintenance of a sufficient Preacher, within the said City, for ever, to be chosen by the said Mayor and his company of the chamber of the said City, and by them to be always appointed to preach a sermon weekly on the Sabbath days, for ever, in such convenient places, within the said City, as shall by them be procured, and best adapted for the edification of the citizens; which said Preacher so nominated shall have sufficient testimonials either from the Bishop of the diocese, or the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, of his conformity to the laws of the realm. This lecture was continued many years by the interest of the said 400*l.* as a convenient purchase could not presently be met with; but afterwards, by the addition of 200*l.* more, the donation of *Thomas Mogeridge*, of this City, merchant, the school and rectory of *Hennock*, with the *Vicarage* there, were purchased for the use above-mentioned, of ——— *Southcott*, Esq.

*Ralph Hamer*, citizen and merchant taylor, of *London*, by Will, dated 5th August, 1615, bequeathed to the Mayor and Chamber of this City 100*l.* to be by them lent unto two young

\* Sunk for upwards of 60 years.

young men, new beginners, using the trade of merchants, CHAP. VI.  
to each of them 50*l.* free of interest, for the term of seven  
years, only paying to the Town-clerk 3*s.* 4*d.* for making  
out the bond, and putting in good security to the Mayor  
and Chamber, for the repayment of the same at the end of  
the said term; and if any of the parties to whom the said 50*l.*  
shall be so lent shall die, decay, or depart this City and  
reside elsewhere within the seven years, that then in every  
such case, the surties shall repay and bring into the said  
Mayor and Chamber for the time being, his 50*l.* within  
two months next after such dying, decaying, or departing  
the City as aforesaid, whereby the same might be lent out  
in like manner, according to the intent of the said Will.  
There was only 75*l.* paid of this legacy by the executors of  
*Mr. Hamer*, and that part was recovered by the care and  
deligence of the then Chamber, which sum was lent for  
many years to two young merchants, in equal portions of  
37*l.* 10*s.* to each.\*

*William Martin*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) bequeathed by  
Will, dated 20th August, 1609, to the Chamber of this  
City 20*l.* to be lent to two young artificers, from 3 years  
to 8 years, after the manner of *Mrs. Tuckfeld's*; and that those  
who shall receive this 20*l.* shall on their first receipt, pay 5*s.*  
to be divided as follows, viz. to the Mayor 12*d.*; to the  
Receiver 8*d.*; to the Town-clerk and Chamberlain 6*d.* each;  
to the three Stewards 12*d.*; to the Sword-bearer 4*d.*; to the  
four Sergeants at Mace 8*d.*; and to the four Beadles 4*d.* †

*Walter Borough*, Esq. (twice Mayor,) a great benefactor  
to the poor of this City, by his Deed, dated 28th October,  
1625, enfeoffed twelve members of the common council,  
and their heirs and successors, with certain lands and tene-  
ments in the parish of *St. Paul*, within the City of *Exon*,  
(then) of the value of 30*l.* and upwards, to the uses following:  
that the feoffees and their heirs, with the rents, issues and  
profits of the said lands, should, yearly for ever, against the  
feast of *Allsaints*, provide and give to eight poor men, of the  
said City and County, eight gowns of good black cotton,  
and against the feast of *Easter*, eight shirts; ‡ also 20*l.* yearly,  
towards the maintenance of the poor children in *St. John's*  
Hospital; and for the better performance of his said Will,  
he appointed, that regular accompts thereof be kept and  
settled yearly, on the 20th of October, appointing one to

G g 2

receive

\* This donation has not been fulfilled for upwards of 70 years.  
(*Rights and Priviledges*, page 83.)

† This is also sunk.

‡ This part of the benefaction is now disused.



**CHAP. VI.** receive the said rents, keep the accompts, and oversee the reparation of the houses, allowing him 20s. yearly for his trouble, and 5s. yearly for keeping the said accompts; and to every one of the twenty-four members of the common council, for subscribing his name, 1s. And when the said feoffees should be reduced to four, a new assurance should be made to twelve others, of the said common council, and so to continue for ever. He also, by his Will, dated March, 1630, (besides other charities,) bequeathed 30l. to the poor of this City; 30l. more to thirty poor housekeepers; 100l. to purchase lands, the yearly profits of which he devised should, for ever, be appropriated to the benefit of the poor of this City, and distributed in bread, beef, wood, or coals, against the feasts of *Christmas* and *Easter*; 100l. more towards erecting and endowing a free Latin Grammar School in the said City; 10l. more towards bringing water to the conduits thereof; 120l. to the company of merchants, to be lent to six persons, free of the said City and company, 20l. to each for three years; 20 marks to twenty poor maid servants, for their better preferment; and 10l. more towards the reparation of the highways; he likewise presented to the chamber four muskets, with their rests, and four corslets, with their head-pieces.

*Rebecca Borough*, widow and relict of the said *Walter Borough*, during her lifetime, (already mentioned,) gave the sum of 200l. to St. John's Hospital; and also, by Deed, dated 1st October, 1649, granted unto twelve trustees, all that tenement, called *Nadder*, in the parish of *Whitstone*, in the county of *Devon*, reputed a parcel of the manor of *Hallesford*; and also, one annuity or yearly rent charge of 30l. issuing out of the premises, to the following uses: that the trustees, and the survivors of them, out of the rents, issues and profits of the said tenement, should, yearly, pay and distribute to and among six or more honest housekeepers, of the said City and County, either old men, and such as by casual means are become poor, or young men, of honest life and conversation, such as are natives of the said City or County, or that had honestly served an apprenticeship in the same, being industrious to live, but not having wherewith to prefer themselves, such reasonable sums of money, whereby every such person might be enabled the better to maintain himself and family, not exceeding the sum of 5l. nor less than 3l. to any such person, as the free gift of the said *Rebecca Borough*, according to the trustees' discretion, and so far as the said rents will extend to, and no further, (all

(all necessary charges in or about the execution of the said trust, or the defence and maintenance of the title of the land, first deducted and allowed.) No person who has had the benefit of the said gift, is to have the same again within six years after, nor is it to be disposed of, but by the major part of the trustees subscribing their names. A new scoffment to be made, from time to time, by the four surviving trustees, for perpetuating this pious and charitable work.\*

*John Peryam*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of this City,) son of the aforementioned *John Peryam*, Esq. by Deed, dated 20th October, 1616, did covenant, that before the feast of *St. Andrew the Apostle*, then next ensuing, he would pay and deliver to the Mayor, &c. the sum of 1000*l.* lawful money of England, and a silver bason and ewer, to be ordered and disposed of by them, for ever, in such manner as should be declared by him in a schedule annexed, which the said Mayor, &c. covenanted to perform, faithfully and without any partiality, and by the said schedule, he ordered the said bason and ewer to be, for ever, preserved to the use of the said City; and that the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. should retain to themselves 100*l.* part of the 1000*l.* for payment of the City's debts, or otherwise, as they should think fit. He also requested, that 100*l.* theretofore bequeathed by his father, might be added to the 900*l.* residue, and that upon *St. Andrew's day* then next following, and so for ever afterwards upon the said day in every year, the 1000*l.* should be lent to five merchants adventurers, trading beyond the seas, (not to be shopkeepers trading by retail,) and free of the City and corporation of merchants there, inhabitants thereof, especially unto them of the meaner sort, that had been born, or been apprentices therein, not excluding any that should be decayed in his estate by losses at sea, (except he had been a bankrupt, or had lavishly spent his estate, or compounded with his creditors for less than he was able to pay,) no person who had been married, or was a widower, (except he had one child or more,) nor any person that had declined trade for the space of two whole years, or more, next before to receive the said loans; each of the said merchants to receive 200*l.* and to find three sufficient surities, to the satisfaction of the Mayor, Recorder and Common Council, or the major part of them, and be bound in double the sum for the repayment, on the 24th day of November, in the third year following, and such other conditions as they shall think fit;

no

\* The Will of the donor of this charity is strictly fulfilled by the present trustees, and the money is annually distributed in the week before Christmas.

**CHAP. VI.** no one to be accepted as a surety but for 200*l.* only, and no one that has the loan of 200*l.* to be capable of receiving it again at the next putting forth; every person that has the 200*l.* is to pay, on receiving the same, to the warden of the Magdalen, (without the Southgate,) 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for its use, the first year, and to give bond, with one good security for the payment of the like sum, on the 24th of November, in each of the two latter years, amounting in the whole to 86*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; that the said warden, by the advice and consent, at least of two Justices of the peace of the said City, shall, from time to time, disburse and lay out 20*l.* thereof, yearly, for relieving such sick poor people, inhabiting within the said City, and in the parishes of *St. David*, *St. Edmund*, and the *Holy Trinity*, as cannot, by reason of their great poverty, relieve themselves; and also for easing and curing such poor people so inhabiting, who by any casual accident should break any bone, dislocate any joint, receive any bruise or hurt, or be grieved with any ulcer, cancer, dangerous sore, or the like, the same to be continued only during the time of such sickness or impediment. And the same warden shall keep a regular accompt of his receipts and disbursements, and in every year, on the 24th of November, shall he produce the same, fairly engrossed on parchment, subscribed with his name, and present it in the council chamber, to the Mayor, Recorder and Common Council, or the greater number of them, whom he entreated to be present at the same, giving power to the Mayor and Recorder to appoint deputies. The said *Mr. Peryam* also appointed the following fees to be then paid, viz. to the Warden, for his trouble, 1*l.* 12*s.*; to the Mayor (next before the settling the accompt,) 10*s.*; to the Recorder 10*s.*; to the seven Justices of the peace, each 6*s.*; to the Town-clerk and Chamberlain, each 3*s.*; to the rest of the Common Council, each 15*s.* 2*d.*; and to the Sword-bearer and four Sergeants at Mace 8*d.* each. And if any of those be absent at the time of settling the said accompts, they are to be mulcted of their pay, and the surplus (if any,) to be delivered over to the succeeding Warden of the poor, as aforesaid.\*

*Sir Richard Lawdry Bauncraft*, (who was killed in the service of *Charles the I.*) and married *Susanna*, widow of *Nicholas Martyn*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by his Will, dated

\* The produce of this great and eminent charity was, for many years, received by Alderman Hickman, (who kept the Magdalen accompts,) and there was, in the year 1736, a considerable sum in his hands, to the amount of some hundred pounds, unaccounted for. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 134.)

dated 15th August, 1642, bequeathed to the poor of Exeter 100*l.* to be paid by his widow and executrix, within twelve months after his decease. This money being detained, and the bequest concealed many years, his executrix, after being applied to for the same, agreed to pay the money into the chamber of *Exor.* on condition of its being employed as Mr. *Peryam's* money was.\*

CHAP. VI.  
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*Thomas Walker, Esq.* (twice Mayor,) by his Will, dated 20th November, 1628, gave to his executors 400*l.* in trust, that they therewith, should, in one year after his decease, procure from the Mayor and Common Council of the said City, one annuity or rent charge out of the City's lands, of such yearly value as they shall agree on; and for default of such agreement, then to bestow the said 400*l.* in lands, and convey the same unto the said Mayor and Common Council, or such others as they shall appoint, to, and for the uses hereafter mentioned, and no other; that is to say, the one moiety towards founding, erecting, and yearly endowing of a free Grammar School, within the said City, whereby the children of freemen might be freely instructed in the Latin Tongue; and the other moiety to be employed, yearly, towards the relief of the poor people of the aforesaid City, in such manner, and to such purposes, as the yearly gift of *John Peryam* was used, with a desire to the Mayor and Common Council, that the same might be accepted, paid, and ordered by the warden of the Magdalen, and justices of the peace, in all things as Mr. *Peryam's* was, and an account thereof to be, yearly, given on the 24th of November; and for the writing, and regular keeping the said accounts, he ordered that the Town-clerk of the said City should receive an annual rent charge, fee, or pension of 10*s.* to be, for ever, issued out of his tenement, situate in the parish of St. Mary Arches, to be paid annually, upon the 24th day of November.†

*James Tucker, Esq.* (sometime Mayor,) by Will, dated 10th June, 1643, bequeathed to the chamber 100*l.* to be laid out in land, and the annual profits accruing therefrom to be, for ever, appropriated to the benefit of the sick and needy, especially to those who accidentally break their limbs, or are incapacitated from labour through lameness; and he devised, as the parishioners of St. *Sidwells* are deprived of the benefit of Mr. *Peryam's*, or Mr. *Walker's* gifts, the

\* This money was never applied to any charitable uses. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 101.)

† The moiety of this 400*l.* to be applied as Mr. *Peryam's* gift was designed, has been sunk for 60 years, or upwards.

CHAP. VI. the whole of the profits of the said legacy be bestowed on the poor of the said parish; and also, that some charitable member would keep the account for them, to be made out on paper, without any cost or charge; and the benefit of this 100*l.* to be paid out by a note under one or two justices' hands; the said money to be paid into the chamber within six months after his decease.

*Thomas Ford, Esq.* (late Mayor,) by Will, dated 1st May, 1659, devised as follows. Item. I give and devise unto the Chamber of *Exeter* 250*l.* to be employed towards erecting and settling an hospital, for the maintenance and curing poor, sick, lame and wounded persons, inhabitants of the City and County of *Exeter*, who have no means, or friends to help and assist them, in their sad conditions; and towards the payment of a physician, surgeon and nurses, to attend the said poor people, until they shall be cured or recovered, according to the manner and order of St. Thomas's Hospital, in Southwark. The said money to be paid within twelve months after my decease, and after the payment, until the said hospital shall be erected, to be lent out, and the profits thereof to be employed in such manner as *Mr. Peryam*, and others have ordained several sums of their gifts.\*

*Richard Evans, Esq.* (late Mayor of this City,) by his Will, dated 30th March, 1660, devised as follows. Item. I give unto the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of the City of *Exeter*, for the time being, and their successors, the sum of 500*l.*; I say 500*l.* to be added to *Mr. Peryam's* gift, upon this trust and confidence, that they the said Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty, and their successors for ever, shall lend the said monies to honest and frugal artificers, of the City and County aforesaid, upon good security, under the common interest of money, not exceeding 100*l.* to one man, for three years, which profit of employment so to be taken, shall be given to such poor people of the City and County aforesaid, from time to time, as two Justices of the peace of the said City shall sign and appoint, and the accompts thereof to be made at the same time and place, yearly, as *Mr. Peryam's* is; and that there shall be expended and taken yearly, to every Common Council-man then present, signing the said accompts, 1*s.* and to the Town-clerk, for making out the said accompts, 6*s.* 8*d.* This 500*l.* to be paid by my son *Nicholas*, his executors or assigns, within one year after my decease; provided always, that if I pay in

\* No such hospital having been erected for many years after this donation was made, the money was sunk. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 67.)

in the same, or any part thereof, by any other means during my lifetime, then my intent and purpose is, that so much of the 500*l.* as shall be so paid, or secured to be paid, shall cease to all intents and purposes. I have secured 300*l.* part of this legacy, to be paid by *Giles Moor*, the younger, in my lifetime.\*

CHAP. VI.

*Robert Walker*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by Will, dated 10th February, 1663, bequeathed to the Mayor and Common Council 100*l.* to be paid within a year after his death, and to be bestowed in lands, within six months after they shall have received the same; and the yearly issues and profits to be employed in such manner and to such uses, as the moiety of the gifts of *Thomas Walker*, his father, deceased, has been, and is employed, for the benefit of the poor.

*Catherine Gifford*, widow and relict of *Thomas Gifford*, of *Halesbury*, Esq. by Will, dated 10th March, 1665, bequeathed unto the poor of *Exeter*, the sum of 100*l.* to be kept in stock or store, by the chamber of the said City, and by them to be so employed, that the yearly profit or benefit of it, might be bestowed on six poor women of the said City, such as my executor, *Nicholas Leach*, shall think fit: and the said 100*l.* to be paid to the Chamber, as soon as my executor shall receive the money now due to me from *John Gifford*, of *Halesbury*, Esq. which money was accordingly brought in.†

*William Bruin*, late of this City, merchant, by Will, dated 4th April, 1675, devised as follows. Item. I give to the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City 100*l.* to be by them bestowed in and about the new-erected workhouse of the said City, and to set the poor therein to work; which said legacy is to be paid within six months after my decease.

*Nicholas Broking*, Esq. (sometime Mayor,) by Will, dated 5th October, 1666, bequeathed unto the Mayor and Common Council, and their successors for ever, the sum of 400*l.* for and towards purchasing some lands of inheritance, of the yearly value of 20*l.* to them and their successors for ever, for such ends and uses as are hereafter expressed; that is to say, to the end that any two Justices and Aldermen of the said City, for the time being, shall dispose of the rents and annual profits of the said lands, for ever, to such poor, sick, weak and impotent persons of the said City, as the said Justices shall think fit; and my Will further is, that

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before

\* This money was paid into the (then) Chamber, but never applied according to the Will of the donor, and not a farthing interest given to the uses directed. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 69.)

† This charity has been decayed for upwards of 70 years.

**CHAP. VI.** before the said 400*l.* shall be laid out and bestowed in the purchase of lands as aforesaid, that 20*l.* yearly, for the interest and profits thereof, should be employed by the said two Justices and Aldermen, for the relief of the said weak, sick and impotent persons of the said City, in manner aforesaid; also he devised, that just accompts of the distribution and profits of this legacy, be kept in such manner and form as those of *Thomas Walker* and *John Peryan*, are appointed to be made and kept in their several respective Wills, in reference to the gifts and bequests to the said City. He also bequeathed 100*l.* to be distributed at the discretion of his executors, immediately after his decease, to such poor people of the said City and County, as they shall think fit.\*

*Elizabeth Dourick*, widow and relict of ——— *Dourick*, of *Dourick*, in the county of *Devon*, Esq. by her last Will, gave to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of this City, the sum of 100*l.* to be bestowed in land, and the profits thereof computed at 5*l.* per annum, to be distributed as her father *Walker's* gift is; one moiety thereof to the poor people who are sick, maimed, or hurt; at the discretion of two Justices of the peace of the said City, by a note under their hands; the other moiety towards erecting and maintaining a free Latin Grammar School, within *St. John's Hospital*, in this City.†

*John Bury*, Clerk, one of the canons-residentary of the cathedral of *St. Peter, Exeter*, by Will, dated 15th June, 1667, devised as follows. Item. I give and bequeath 10*l.* to be distributed the day after my funeral, among the poor of my parish of *St. Mary Michael*, alias *St. Mary the Moor*, within this City, who have weekly pay towards their relief; and that I may return some farther tribute of thankfulness to my most gracious God, for his singular goodness towards me, that if, within twenty years after the date of this my Will, there shall be founded, erected, and established, within the parish of *St. Sidwell*, in the county of the said City, a convenient and sufficient Workhouse, wherein all the poor people of that parish, that shall be able to work, shall be maintained therein, and kept to work, then, and so long as the employment shall be continued; I give, devise and bequeath unto the Master, Governor, Steward, Treasurer, or Receiver of the said Workhouse that shall be

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\* Lands were purchased with this 400*l.* the profits of which were, in the year 1792, received by Alderman Hickman, but not applied according to the Will of the donor. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 37.)

† The first 50*l.* moiety of this gift has been sunk upwards of 70 years. (*Rights and Privileges*, page 60.)

so erected, by and within the time aforesaid, for the time being, for ever, the annual or yearly rent of 40*l.* to be paid quarterly, by equal portions, out of my lands and estate hereafter mentioned, viz. 30*l.* thereof to be issuing, due and payable out of the *batton of Netherstover*, alias *Netherstofford*, in the parish of *Collaton-Ravleigh*, in the county of *Devon*; and 2*l.* 8*s.* more thereof, which I have already made in my Deed, made to the Dean and Chapter of *St. Peter*, in *Exon*, bearing date 12th May, in the 17th year of his Majesty's reign, as the remainder of the rent of 25*l.* per annum, among other charitable uses therein mentioned, issuing out of my tenement in the parish of *Tiverton*, commonly called *Rocke*, alias *Woodend*; and the other 1*l.* 12*s.* residue thereof, to be issuable, due and payable out of that little messuage and cottage, with its appurtenances, situate and being in *Broad-synnett*, then in the possession of *William* ——— after the decease of *Elizabeth Lethbridge*.

*John Martyn*, Esq. (late Mayor of this City,) by Will, dated 15th October, 1669, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of *Exeter* 400*l.* to be paid by his executor in one year after his decease, in good and lawful money of England; and if it shall happen, that in the said time the said 400*l.* be not paid unto the said Mayor, &c. that then it shall and may be lawful for the said Mayor, &c. to enter and take possession of two pieces of land, in the parish of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, commonly called *Wood Meadows*, and the inheritance thereof to be their's for ever; and that the interest and profits arising from the said 400*l.* should, for ever, be appropriated towards binding out poor children, natives of this City and County, apprentices, at the discretion of the Mayor and Justices of this City of *Exeter*.

*Philip Whitrow*, by Will, dated 10th May, 1592, bequeathed to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Commonalty of the City, the sum of 16*l.* to be by them disposed of, and lent out, to four poor artificers, in equal portions of 4*l.* each, they giving good security for the repayment thereof at three years' end, on the 20th of June, that the same might be again disposed of to others for the like term, and in this manner, the said benevolence is to be continued for ever.\*

*Christopher Lethbridge*, Esq. (sometime Mayor of this City,) a great benefactor to the poor, as already related,† among other benefactions, by his last Will, dated 17th November, 1669, gave to the Mayor and Common Council

H h h 2

of

\* Decayed.

† See the parish of *St. Mary Arches*, page 391, and *Lethbridge's Almshouses*, page 385.



CHAP. VI. of the said City, and their successors for ever, all his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, and hereditaments whatsoever, with the appurtenances thereof unto belonging; and all his part, property, and portion of his messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, situate, lying, and being in the several parishes of *St. Thomas the Apostle*, and of *Newton-Abbot*, in the county of *Devon*, or either of them, or which are issuing and payable to him, his heirs, executors, or assigns, out of any messuages, lands, or tenements lying in the said parishes, or either of them: in trust, nevertheless, that they the said Mayor and Common Council, and their successors, shall, for ever hereafter, dispose of the rents, issues, and profits of the said premises, in such manner as is hereafter expressed, that is to say, 6*l.* thereof to be yearly, for ever, employed and disposed of in such manner as the gift of one *Peryam*, deceased, (sometime one of the Aldermen of the said City,) is disposed and employed. Also, 15*l.* 12*s.* of the said rents, for a yearly endowment of his new-erected almshouses, in the parish of the *Holy Trinity*. He also willed and ordered, that one honest person be appointed to collect the rents of the said premises, and to dispose of the same according to his Will, allowing him, for his trouble in keeping and passing a fair account thereof to the Mayor and Common Council, a salary of 40*s.* yearly, for so long a time as he shall continue so to do: also, that the Mayor and such members of the Common Council, who shall be present at the settling and passing the said accounts, should receive 1*s.* each, and the Town-clerk (if also present,) 2*s.* 6*d.*; also, that the residue of the yearly rents and profits of the said premises, after the said almshouses being repaired, and other incidental charges of the said premises being discharged and paid, shall be, for ever, yearly paid to the Governors of *St. John's Hospital*, in the said City, towards the maintenance of one or more poor boy or boys there, or for the binding out of apprentices from thence, at the discretion of the Governors. He also bequeathed to the poor of the City and County of *Exeter*, who have weekly relief, 40*l.* to be proportioned to each parish according to the number of their poor, by his executor's in-trust, to be distributed at, or soon after his funeral, by the several overseers of their respective parishes. Also, to one hundred tradesmen of the said City and County, having a wife and child, or children, 100*l.* to be equally divided between them, and paid within one year after his decease; desiring that six, or eight of the said poor men might be nominated

nominated from *St. Mary Arches*' parish, by the Mayor and CHAP. VI.  
Common Council.

In 1676, *Mr. Robert Phipps*, merchant, of *Exeter*, left by Will, 30*l.* per annum to trustees, for the relief of ten poor tradesmen of the said City, to be distributed annually, in 3*l.* to each, to provide such tradesmen with a set of tools, or a small sum, which, if well improved, would contribute towards the support of themselves and families, and, by degrees, render them useful members of the community. The present trustees are *William Kennaway, Esq.* the *Rev. James Marshing*, and *Mr. Pope*.\*

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## PARISHES ADJACENT TO EXETER.

*St. Thomas the Apostle.* This parish is contiguous to the *St. Thomas* City, being separated from it, only by the river *Ere*, over which is the new bridge; but is, and ever was, independent of the City government, being a parcel of the county of *Devon*. The part nearest to the City, consists, principally, of three streets, leading to different roads, the longest of which has a westerly direction, and is termed *Cowick-street*; that to the south, is named *Alphington-street*; and the other branches nearly north, and from being the road to, is called *Oakhampton-street*; in these streets are many good houses, and large shops, and were it not for its vicinity to *Exeter*, this parish would appear as a large country town.

The church, which is situate on the south side of *cowick-street*, is large and well built; consisting of a nave, chancel, a large aisle on the south side, and a smaller one on the north, it is neatly pewed, and has a large convenient gallery. The tower, which is at the west end, is embattled and lofty, with a small spire; it contains a good peal of six bells, a clock and dial.

Before the reformation, the parish church was the priory church of *Cowick*, but the inhabitants in general resorted to a chapel, situate near the river, dedicated to *Thomas Becket* Archbishop of *Canterbury*: this chapel being situated in a damp, marshy spot, much subject to inundations of the river, the inhabitants petitioned for its removal.† which being

\* This trust is annually performed.

† According to tradition, the scite of the ancient chapel was in *Ford's* garden, near *Gouldshays*; the angle of a stone wall, with some foundations, were lately visible near the edge of the river.

CHAP. VI. ing complied with, the new-erected edifice was dedicated to  
 St. Thomas the apostle. §

St. Thomas According to Bishop *Stafford's* register, the first parish church was erected about the year 1418.

There are several monuments; and upon the walls are fixed several banners, atchievements, and armorial trophies, chiefly of the families of *Gould, Buller* and *Northmore*.

The following inscriptions are mostly deserving notice. Against the south wall is a large stone monument, badly executed, on which is this inscription. *M. S. Hic jacet corpus Thomæ Northmore armigeri, Johannie Northmore (de Well in parochia South Tawton, in hoc comitatu generosi semper fidelis) filii legis consiliarii et senatus Britanniæ nuper decoris; qui tres duxit uxores, videlicet D.<sup>nm</sup> Pridham, D.<sup>nm</sup> Andrews, & D.<sup>nm</sup> Saint Aubyn; ex prima genuit binas filias quarum altera moritur tenella, altera superstes hoc mausolæum posuit, ut gratitudinis officiiq; pignus in mortuum charissimumq. patrem; qui obiit die 25 Julii, annoq. domini 1713.—En veterem senatorum ecclesiæ, patriæ et coronæ fidelem qui nunquam suffragium vendidit nec male lulit suum; ad augustiorem felicioreneq; senatum migrasse speramus: ubi deus ipse (plaudentibus cælicolis) omnipotenti manusceptrum tenet.*

Near this monument is a small, decorated, white marble tablet, bearing this inscription. *Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Fanshawe, whose excellent understanding, unfeigned piety, exemplary virtue, happily blended with the most amiable and domestic endowments, rendered her loss a sore affliction to her surviving friends. She was the wife of Charles Fanshawe, Esq. Barrister-at-Law; and the daughter of John Scale, Esq. of Mount Boone, in the county of Devon, by Elizabeth daughter of John Fownes, Esq. of Netherway, in the same county, and with two of her children, viz. Eliz. Maria, aged 2 years; Robert Henly, aged 6 months, lie interred in the vault beneath.*

Against the same wall, is a very elegant marble monument, on which is this just eulogium to the memory of *James Buller, Esq. of Shillingham, in the county of Cornwall, and Downes, in the county of Devon, who departed this life February 11th, 1772, aged 31. And Husey his wife, who died September 26th, 1768, aged 31.*

*The cherub charity in their hearts enshrin'd,  
 " Breath'd faith in God, and love to all mankind,"  
 Taught them to soothe the pangs of deep distress,  
 To melt at others grief, to pity and to bless.*

*Lov'd*

§ The fair, or revel, is still held on the Tuesday after the 7th of July, that day being dedicated, in our old calendars, to *Thomas a Becket*.

*Lo' d and lamented, in life's smiling bloom  
They sunk resigned, and found an early Tomb!  
Their days benevolence and peace endeared,  
Their nights congratulating conscience cheer'd;  
And all their prospects bright'ning to the last,  
Their heaven commenc'd ere this vain world was past.*

On the north wall of the nave, there is a large monument enriched with sculpture, and bearing this inscription.

H. S. E. Gulielmus Williams, M. D. *virarum suar singulari scientia preeditus.—Quid prastitit, si quares, eorum tententur Caechyrae quorum valetudini dum nimis studiose inserviebat ipse suam perdidit, Mortemque. accubavit.—Obiit V. Kalend: Maii, anno MDCCXL. Etatis suae 59.—Marens filius natus maximus pro pietate qua patrem clarissimum coluit, hoc marmor memoriae sacrum esse voluit.*

And against the south wall of the chancel, is fixed a marble monument, on which is inscribed. *Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, (relict of William Williams, of the City of Exeter, M. D.) who departed this life the 25th of June, 1776, aged 77 years. She was the daughter of Joseph Oliver, of Exwick, Esq. and the last of that respectable family. In her were united the christian and the social virtues; the best of parents, a sincere friend, a cheerful companion, and a liberal benefactress to the poor.—In the same vault are interred John Oliver, William, Benjamin, William, Bridget, sons and daughter of the above William Williams, and Elizabeth his wife.—Anne, relict of Samuel Newte, of Tidcombe, clerk; Eliza, relict of David Hamilton, of Bristol, merchant; William son of David Hamilton, Esq. and Bridget his wife, in dutiful respect and affectionate regard, caused this monument to be erected in the year 1781.*

This parish is a vicarage formerly belonging to the priory of Cowick; it was granted, at the reformation, to John Lord Russell, in which family it continued through many descents; the present patron is James Buller, Esq. Incumbent, Rev. John Bradford Copplestone. First fruits 11*l.* 2*s.* 8½*d.* Yearly tenths 1*l.* 2*s.* 3½*d.*\*

Near

\* During Cromwell's usurpation, marriages being performed by the justices of the peace; the following curious extract is taken from the register of this parish. "On the 31st of March, 1657, were married, Richard Hooper, of this parish, woolcomber, and Elizabeth Baker; servant to Richard Bulford, of the parish of Alphington, spinner, by the right worshipful John Quick, Esq. and justice of the peace for this county." The same register gives an account of nine other marriages, in the same manner, from the aforesaid 31st of March, to the 12th of September following.

CHAP. VI.

St. Thomas

Near the church, are several small habitations for the aged poor, who are maintained by the parishioners; but we do not find that they have any other endowment. Near the *Moreton* turnpike is a large and convenient workhouse, where the aged and orphan poor are comfortably provided for: their appearance, in general, is much cleaner, and more healthy, than that of others on similar foundations.

Lunatic  
Asylum

It is with great pleasure we mention another public and charitable institution, the *Lunatic Asylum*. Of all the calamities incident to human nature, no one is more deplorable than the deprivation of those exalted faculties, that more especially distinguish man, from the animal creation. Every species of this disorder produces a degree of distress peculiarly humiliating, makes the most forcible appeal to our best feelings, and calls for our deepest compassion. To place such objects under the care of skillful physicians, and the protection of gentlemen, who shall be influenced by the most benevolent motives, is a benefit to society, and a great relief to private families. With these views, subscriptions were began about the year 1795, and in 1800, a neat mansion, called *Bowhill-house*, was purchased, just without the *Moreton* turnpike, and converted into an *Asylum for Lunatics*: on account of its local situation, peculiarly calculated for the four western counties, but patients are admitted from any part of the kingdom, on very easy terms, proportioned to their ranks in life. It was opened the 1st day of July, 1801, but containing only about fifteen wards, it was found necessary to erect a large additional edifice, adjoining the old one, and capable of containing about thirty-five wards, with correspondent offices, the first stone of which was laid on the 29th March, 1803, by the Rev. James Manning, the vice-president. The institution has been liberally encouraged by the friends of humanity, and promises to be a permanent and comfortable Asylum for the distressed and distressing part of the community. The institution is managed by a President, Vice-president and Treasurer, with a Committee, elected annually, of ten Governors, benefactors of ten guineas each; also a Physician, who attends, at least, twice a week, and oftner if called upon; and a Surgeon when occasionally required. The house establishment consists of an Apothecary, a Keeper and Matron, three men and four women servants. By the fourth annual report, to the 30th June, 1805, it appears that 89 patients have been admitted since the opening of the house, whereof

46 had

46 had been discharged cured,  
 2 went to their friends on trial,  
 4 went out with benefit, at request of their friends,  
 3 were discharged as improper objects,  
 8 deceased  
 26 remained in the house, 20 much recovered, and 6  
 not worse than when admitted.  
 89 total.

In *Cowick-street* is the Bridewell for the county of Devon, this is a large ancient building, strong and well calculated for the purposes to which it is appropriated, having received of late years great and additional improvements; the governor has a convenient house and large gardens; a clergyman and an apothecary are appointed by the justices of the county of Devon, and have handsome salaries, for their attendance on the prisoners. This building seems to have been erected in the fourteenth century, and according to tradition, was a mansion-house, belonging to *John Holland*, Duke of *Exeter*, and converted to its present use in the reign of *Elizabeth*.

Almost opposite to the Bridewell, stands the Sheriffs Ward, or prison for debtors, for the county of Devon; it is surrounded by a lofty stone wall, enclosing a green plat of ground, planted with lofty elms; the building, though large in itself, is ill adapted to the convenience of the numerous debtors of this extensive county, as they are too often crowded together, in a miserable and filthy manner; and, as no donations have been bequeathed to this prison, nor any subsistence allowed by the county, they are frequently driven to the greatest distress; and to the disgrace of humanity, unable to procure even the common necessities of life.

At the western extremity of *Cowick-street*, is an ancient house, called (according to Sir *William Pole*,) from its situation (below the hill) *Bowhill*. This building bears evident marks of antiquity, and has a desecrated chapel remaining. In the reign of *Henry the VI.* it was the residence of *Richard Holland*, Esq. whose grand daughter *Thomasin*, by marriage with *John Carew*, of *Anthony*, Esq. brought it into that family, many of which resided here in great affluence, till the male issue failing, it came through *Sawle*, &c. to *John Graves*, Esq. captain in the royal navy, whose property it now is. To the west of *Bowhill* is *Barley*, an elegant built house, situate on an eminence, commanding an extensive prospect of Exeter, and the adjoining country. It was built by *John Pinnock*, Esq. to whom the estate came

**CHAP. VI.** by marriage, together with *Bowhill*, *Higher Barley*, and *Cocklesford*,\* and is now the residence of *John Graves*, Esq.  
**St. Thomas** Southwest from *Bowhill*, was the ancient priory of *Cowick*, founded by *Hugh Courtenay*, *Earl of Devon*, but very little of the building is now remaining, the present edifice (converted into a farm-house,) appears from the style of the architecture to have been erected since the reformation, and soon after its fine church was so effectually demolished that its site cannot now be ascertained; in this church several of the noble family of the Courtenays were buried, particularly *Hugh Courtenay*, *Earl of Devon*, (who died the 18th of *Edward I.*) and his lady; the estate round the house is considerable, the land rich, abounding with fine timber, and from several parts commanding fine views; at the foot of the lawn before the house, is a very fine spring, which flows in a deep sedgy bottom, formerly a fish pond; at the head of this spring, human bones have been found, from whence it has been conjectured, that the church stood near this spot. This priory was a cell to the abbey of *Tavistock*, and at its dissolution, was granted to *Francis Lord Russell*, in whose family it continued for many descents, since which, it became the property of *Mrs. Speke*, of *Tidwell*, who left it by will, to its present possessor *James White*, of *Exeter*, Esq. Near *Cowick* is *Franklin*, a neat pleasant house, commanding a fine prospect, the grounds well wooded, forming beautiful avenues; it is at present the seat of *Charles Fanshawe*, Esq. recorder, of *Exeter*. On the eastern side of the *Plymouth-road*, are some remains of an ancient mansion-house, named *Floyer's Hayes*, the habitation of a family of the name of *Floeru* or *Floyer*, from the conquest, to the latter end of the sixteenth century. They held these lands from the *Earl of Devonshire*, by half a knight's fee, on condition "that whensoever this lord, the *Earl of Devon*, cometh into *Exe Island*, the tenant for the time being, is to come, seemingly apparelled, with a napkin about his neck, or upon his shoulders, and a pitcher of wine, and a silver cup in his hand, and shall offer his Lord thereof to drink." This estate is now the property, by purchase, of *Thomas Templar*, Esq.

Near this are the remains of another ancient mansion, formerly named *Heighin*, sometimes appropriated to maintain a prebend in the collegiate Church of the blessed virgin *Mary*, within the *Castle of Exeter*, by the name of the Prebend of *Hayes*. After the reformation, it was purchased by *John Peter*, Esq. customer, of *Exeter*, and was afterwards

\* Part of *Bowhill*, *Higher Barley*, and *Cocklesford*, were purchased by *Charles Collyns*, Esq. banker, of *Exeter*.

wards sold by his grandson *Sir William Peter*, Kt. to *William Gould*, Esq. It is now the property of *James Buller*, Esq. CHAP. VI.

Southeast from *Hayes* is *Marsh Barton*, situate in a deep fenny soil, surrounded with ditches; here was a small priory of black canons, some part of the buildings still bear the appearance of antiquity. After the dissolution, it became the property of ——— *Coffin*, of *Portlege*, Esq. Part of the chapel of this small religious house was taken down by a *Mr. Coffin*, the proprietor, and the timber and stones given towards the re-building of *St. Paul's Church*, in *Exeter*. The estate at present belongs to *James Buller*, Esq. St. Thomas

On the west side of the parish, near the river, stood a large mansion, long the seat of the opulent family of the *Goulds*, and from which it took the name of *Gould's-hays*: not the least vestige of this ancient seat of English hospitality is now remaining:—a large barn and a deep pool near, retain the names of *Gould's barn*, and *Gould's pond*; the latter formerly a fish pond. Near this house, the ancient *Roman-British* road from the westgate, crossed the river, (the ford being still visible,) from whence it took a westerly direction, up an enclosed lane, called *Greenway-lane*, (where vestiges are yet plainly to be seen,) by *Cleave-house*, to the *Oakhampton* road.

On *Red Hill* is a neat, new-erected villa, commanding a delightful prospect of the City, river, and adjacent country; built by *John Dennis*, Esq. alderman, of *Exeter*.

Further west, is *Cleave*, a neat mansion, situate on an eminence, having extensive views of variegated country: it has long been the residence of the *Northmore* family. Behind this, is a neat villa, called *Little Cleave*, the property also of *Thomas Northmore*, Esq.

Further up the river, is the village of *Erwick*; this hamlet took its rise from the fulling and grist mills, long established here; a leat being cut from the river, below *Cowley* bridge, they are constantly supplied with a stream of water. In this hamlet, *Edmund Granger* and *Samuel Banfill*, Esqrs. have established a large woollen manufactory, and erected spinning machines, workshops, dye-houses, tenter grounds, &c. Also dwelling-houses for the manufacturers, an establishment which has greatly increased the number of inhabitants; here is *Erwick-house*, once the residence of the family of *Oliver*, from whom it came by marriage, to *William Williams*, M. D. of *Exeter*, it was the residence of his widow, for many years, whose heirs sold it, with the barton, to the present proprietors of the manufactory. It is now the residence of *Samuel Banfill*, Esq. the directing partner



**CHAP. VI.** partner of that extensive concern. The walk from St. Thomas, by the river side, to *Erwick*, is, in summer, exceedingly pleasant.

St. Thomas

Between *Cowley-bridge* and *Erwick*, is a neat cottage, built on the edge of a clift, hanging over the river; underneath are waving walks cut out of the rock, and beautifully overhung by trees and coppice wood, in a most romantic manner; the roaring of the river below, over an artificial ware, the hanging cliffs, &c. are very pleasing; this cottage was built, and the improvements to the natural beauties of the spot, designed by *John Merivale, Esq.* of *Barton-place*.

The hamlet, or tything of *Oldridge*, though at the distance of six miles from the church of *St. Thomas*, belongs to this parish; it consists of five estates, containing about 453 acres, and the manor belonged for several generations to the family of *Trowbridge*, who sold it to the *Yardes*. To accommodate the inhabitants, situate at such a distance from the parish church, a chapel of ease was maintained in this hamlet time immemorial, but was destroyed by *George Trowbridge*, of *Trowbridge, Esq.* the stones were carried to *Trowbridge*, to repair a kitchen; and the communion table was made a drinking board, in a neighbouring ale-house;\* but the want of a chapel in this detached part of the parish having been long complained of, a handsome one was erected, at the joint expence of *James Buller*, and the late *Giles Yard, Esquires*.

According to a return made by *Mr. Chappel*, in 1778, the number of families in the town part, near the church, and within the turnpikes, was 300; without the turnpikes, and detached farm-houses, (exclusive of the villages of *Erwick* and *Oldridge*, those in the alms-houses, prisons, and workhouse,) 59, in all 359 families, which, allowing six to a family, make 2154 inhabitants.

**St. Leonard.** This parish is situate S. E. of the city, on the road to *Topsham*; the church, which is on the right hand of the road, is built on an eminence, and is very small, consisting of a nave and small chancel, it has no tower, the bell being hung in a turret; the whole has the appearance of great antiquity, and is probably the remains of a larger edifice, as at the west end are vestiges of a circular stone stair case; the interior is plain and neat, the windows are open

\* The village historians positively relate, that the family of *Trowbridge* never prospered after this sacrilege; and that all those concerned in it, particularly one who had the chapel bell for his trouble, died miserably.

open only on the south side, those on the north being filled up. On the north wall is a handsome monument of white marble, to the memory of Mr. *Collings*, of *Parker's-well*; and in the church-yard is an altar tomb, the sides of which are decorated with white marble tablets, on which are carved, in relief, different degrees of sickness; and on the cover stone is this inscription,

*Depositum* Wilhelme Musgrave, Med. Doc. Rici. Musgrave, de Nettlecombe, in comitatu Somerset, Filii natu tertii Medico. rum Londinensi e Regia Societate et e Coll. Regali nuper e Novo Collegio Oxon. Practici Exoniensis non infelicio Natus est 4<sup>to</sup>. Novbris. A. D. 1655. Obiit 1721. Hic jacet etiam Uxor ejus Philippa, Wilhelmi Speke de Jordan prope Whitelackington Filia, Quæ obiit Nov. 24. 1715. *Ætat. suæ* 55.

From the burying ground there is an extensive prospect during the grand rebellion, this was fortified by the Parliament army, which effectually blockaded the City on this side, and greatly distressed the Royal garrison; and it is probable the church was much injured at that period.

This parish is a rectory, exempted from the Archdeacon's jurisdiction: valued in the King's books at 4*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* per ann. Certified value 34*l.* Patron, *John Baring*, Esq. Present Rector, the *Rev. Gayer Patch*.

A small brook divides the county of *Devon* from that of *Exeter*. On this brook is situated (a part in both counties,) the ancient house of *Larkbear*, mentioned in doomsday book by the name of *Laurocbear*: the front has been modernized; but the remaining parts have much the appearance of a religious edifice of remote antiquity.† It was, for many ages, the seat of the family of *Hull*, who sold it to *Sir Nicholas Smith*; afterwards it was in the possession of the *Vowlers*, merchants, of *Exeter*, and a daughter in that family, brought it, by marriage, to *Mr. Baring*, merchant, father of the present *John Baring*, Esq. It is now the property of *Charles Baring*, Esq. There are large press-shops, packing-rooms, linhays, tenter grounds, and all other conveniences, on the demesnes, for finishing woollen cloths. Great mercantile concerns have been carried on here for more than a century.

Opposite *Larkbear-house*, is a large neat house, (with extensive gardens,) built by the late *Matthew Lee*, Esq.

On the hill above *Larkbear*, is the spacious mansion of *Mount Radford*, delightfully situated, and commanding ex-

tensive

† There is a tradition, that a subterranean passage communicated from this house with the Cathedral; to corroborate which, they shew an ancient pointed archway opening into the ditch, through which the brook passes under the house.

**CHAP. VI.** tensive prospects. This house was built by *Lawrence Radford*, Esq. whose son, *Arthur Radford*, sold it to *Edward St. Leonard Hancock*, Esq. whose daughter brought it, by marriage, to *Sir Amias Bampfylde*, Kt. after his decease, she was married to *Sir John Doddridge*, Kt. one of the justices of the Court of King's Bench, who resided here for some years. In 1628, it was in the possession of the family of *Duck*, as ——— *Duck*, recorder of *Exeter*, died here in that year. His descendants lived here in high reputation, till they became extinct by the death of *Richard Duck*, Esq. without issue, in 1695.

About 1750, it was the residence of *Mr. John Colsworthy*, merchant, who, from repeated losses at sea, becoming bankrupt, the house and demesnes were purchased by *Mrs. Baring*, of Larkbear, and it is now, the property, and residence of her eldest son, *John Baring*, Esq. justice of the peace, for the county of *Devon*, and, in several parliaments, one of the representatives for the City of *Exeter*. He has greatly improved the house, almost to a re-building; he has also greatly added to the demesnes, laid open the grounds around it, planted numbers of trees and shrubs, altered the road, and built a pallisadoed arch over it, by which, an easy communication is made to the church, and the adjoining grounds; in short, this splendid mansion is now as compleat and desirable a residence as any in the county.

A little to the southeast of *Mount Radford*, is a neat and pleasant villa, built on a gentle eminence, by *Henry Weymouth*, Esq. merchant, of *Exeter*, and on the scite of a smaller house, which was long the residence of the family of *Collings*;\* it is called *Parker's Well*, from a noted spring, which issues from under the the bank, into a square bason.

Near *Trew's* wear has been established, of late years, a manufactory of cottons; the buildings are very extensive, the machinery is worked by a large water wheel, which is supplied by a canal cut from the river; many dwelling-houses have been erected near the manufactory, for the accommodation of the workmen, and their families, which has added greatly to the number of the inhabitants of this parish.

The ancient priory of *St. James*, was partly in this parish, an account of which has been already mentioned.

A branch of the ancient and respectable family of *Drewe*, had a mansion-house in this parish, where they resided for several generations, till it became extinct. The last was *John*

\* This house hath lately been purchased, and is now the residence of *Robert Sproule*, Esq.

*John Drewe, Esq.* who had twenty children by *Agnes*, his wife, the daughter of *Watkin York*, of Exeter; but they all died without male issue. CHAP. VI.

The last parish to be described, is *Heavitree*, anciently called *Woonford*. It is situated east of Exeter, the church being about one mile from the city: it is dedicated to *St. Michael*, is large and regular, about 98 feet in length, and its extreme breadth 65 feet: it consists of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and large gallery: the roof is supported by eight clustered pillars, four on each side, the capitals decorated with coarse carvings of angels and foliage:—the chancel is separated from the nave, by a neat gothic screen, and the alterpiece is wainscoted in pannels, on which are painted the Lord's prayer, the creed, and different texts of scripture: on each side of the chancel, are apertures in the walls, supposed to have been made to enable those who sat at the extremity of the aisle, to see the elevation of the host, in the *Romish* service. The font has, from the coarseness of the carving, strong marks of antiquity. The tower, which is square and low, has four small bells. There are only two monuments in this church; one against the north wall of the aisle, with this inscription.

*Near unto this place lyeth the body of Sebastian Isacke, of Polsloe, Esq. who departed this life on the 8th of November, 1688.*

The other monument is a plain white marble tablet, fixed against a pillar on the south side of the nave, and bears this epitaph:—*Near this place are interred, the bodies of Ambrose Rhodes, Esq. of Bellair, in this parish, who died 1st March, 1777, aged 72. And of Sarah, his beloved wife, (sole daughter of Solomon Andrew, Esq. of Lyme-Regis, in the county of Dorset, deceased,) who died 22d August, 1783, aged 73. And of Mary, their daughter, who died 17th November, 1760, aged 24.*

On a grave-stone, in the chancel, is the following quaint inscription:

*Here lyeth the bodyes of Thomas Gorges, of Heavitree, Esq. and Rose, his wife. He departed this life the 17th of October, 1670; and she the 14th day of April, 1671.*

*The lovinge Turtell havinge mist her mate  
Beg'd Shce might enter ere they shut the gate  
Their dust here lies whose soules to Heaven are gone  
And waite till Angells rowle away the stone.*

The present vicarage-house is neat, and pleasantly situated, with a good glebe around it. It was built by the *Rev. John Snell*

**CHAP. VI.** *Snell*, canon-residentiary of the cathedral of *Exeter*, and the vicar of this parish, in 1728.

**Heavitree**

This parish is a peculiar, belonging to the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*, and to which are annexed the daughter churches of *St. Sidwell*, and *St. David*, in *Exeter*. The first fruits 34*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* Yearly tenths 3*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* Present vicar, the *Rev. George Moore*, archdeacon of *Cornwall*. Proprietors and patrons, the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*.

The ancient name of this village, which gives name to the largest hundred in the county, evidently points it out to have been of some eminence in early times. *Woonford*, or *Wonford*, is supposed to have been a contraction of the British *Avon*, a general name for all rivers; but it does not seem probable, that this name should be given to an insignificant brook; neither is the contraction of *Avon* to *Woon*, similar to the practice of our ancestors, and we find a river in this county, named by some authors, *Avon*, now named *Aunc*. It seems probable, that its true name was *Wodensford*; the present contraction, *Wonford*, being similar to *Wodensdike*, now *Wonsdike*; and *Wodensberig*, now *Wonsborow*, from the idol, *Woden*, so much in repute with our Saxon ancestors.

The present name of *Heavitree*, it is conjectured, was derived from its being the common place of execution for malefactors, signifying, the heavy, or sorrowful tree.

According to *Sir William Pole*, *Henry* the I. gave the hundred, and manor of *Wonford*, to *Geoffrey de Mandeville*, warden of the Castle of *Exeter*, who gave them, in marriage with his daughter, to *William Fitz John*. It came afterwards, by descent, to *Henry de Tilly*, from whom, on his rebelling against his sovereign King *John*, his majesty seized the manor, but, after sometime, restored it to *Robert de Mandeville*, a descendant from *Geoffrey*: it became then, part of the possessions of the *Montacutes*, *Earls of Salisbury*; and after them, of the *Courtenays*, *Earls of Devon*. On the decline of that noble family, the manor was purchased by *Mr. Walrond*, of *Tiverton*, from whom it descended to the *Kellys*; and in the year 1773, *Arthur Kelly*, Esq. sold it to its present possessor, *John Baring*, of *Mount Radford*, Esq.

The summit of the hill, between *Exeter* and *Heavitree*, was anciently the place of execution, for the county of *Devon*, before the removal of the gallows to *Ringwell*. This place is named *Livery-dole*, from the magistrates and citizens, in their Midsummer watch, and other public processions, dressed in their livery gowns, dispensing here, their alms to the poor, formerly termed a *dole*:—hence, *Livery-dole*.

On

On this spot, after the execution of Mr. Bennet, for **CHAP. VI.**  
 heresy, in the reign of *Queen Mary*, *Sir Robert Dennis*, kt.  
 founded a chapel and almshouse, in the year 1591, which **Heavittree**  
 was finished by his brother *Sir Thomas Dennis*, kt. in 1594,  
 and liberally endowed by him.

From *Sir Thomas Dennis*, the patronage of this charity  
 came, by marriage with *Anne*, one of his daughters, and  
 coheiresses, to *Sir Henry Rolle*, of *Stevenstone*, in whose  
 descendants it has ever since continued; the present patron  
 being the right honorable *John, Lord Rolle*, of *Bickton*, who  
 laudably fulfills the trust, keeping the buildings in perfect  
 repair, and partially paying the chaplain, and almsmen.  
 Present chaplain, the Rev. *Richard Eastcott*.

From this chapel, on an easy descent to the village of  
*Heavitree*, (properly so called) on a gravelly soil, are erected  
 several small neat houses, in a delightful situation, both for  
 prospect and air; and if, through the interposing hand of  
 providence, a lasting peace might be procured, it is very  
 probable, that in the course of a few years, the village of  
*Heavitree* will be united by buildings, to the City of *Exon*.—  
 In the village itself are several good houses, many of which  
 are let out in lodgings, occupied by the citizens, for the  
 benefit of their health, the air being thought very pure and  
 salubrious.

From the village, to the hamlet of *East Wonford*, is near  
 half a mile, on the great *London road*, where are many  
 houses dispersed, some of them neat buildings of modern  
 erection. At *East Wonford*, are likewise several good  
 houses, one of which is of ancient date, and has for  
 many generations been the residence of the family of the  
*Pines*. The brook has its course near this hamlet, and over  
 it is a stone bridge of two arches, repaired by the county;  
 near it is a continual spring of fine water, which, from an  
 iron ladle formerly fastened by a chain to the wall, for the  
 benefit of passengers drinking, it obtained the name of *Iron*  
*Dish*; here it was customary for the unfortunate culprits  
 conducted to execution, to stop and drink. From *East*,  
 the rivulet directs its course to *West Wonford*, through beau-  
 tiful meadows, and a serpentine course; glides near the  
 chapel of *St. Eligius*.\* This very ancient edifice was, a  
 few years since, entire, consisting of a nave and chancel,  
 and, from some remains of the decalogue painted on the  
 eastern end, it appears to have been used for sacred service,  
 since

\* This chapel is called, in *Bishop Stafford's register*, "*The chapel*  
*of St. Clement, and St. Eligius.*" And in *Bishop Brentingham's*, "*St.*  
*Eligius's chapel, at Wonford.*"

**CHAP. VI.** since the reformation, it has long been desecrated, and its revenues appropriated to the relief of the poor. The building has been of late years much neglected; and from want of necessary repairs, the vaulted roof, and one side, fell very lately into ruins, the remains are now converted into a stable.

**Heavitree**

Near this is a cot-house, patched up from old materials, and some part of it appears of age coeval with the chapel; probably it was the habitation of the officiating priest. The yard was decorated with lofty elms, of ancient growth, which gave a gloomy shade to the whole. This sequestered spot, its beautiful meadows, and the meandering brook, overhung with undulating hills, clothed with ash and other trees, were very happily chosen to inspire the mind with religious contemplation.

The hamlet of *West Wonford* was evidently of greater note and extent than it is at present, as it gives name to the hundred, and as the ancient Roman road passed through it from *Harpford Bridge*: it now consists of detached farm-houses and cottages, many in a decayed state, and the ruins of others visible; the removal of the great western road hastened its decline, and gave rise to the present *Heavitree*.

*West Wonford House* is a large old stone mansion, and was long the residence of the family of *Atkins*, (two of whom were judges,) it is now the property of *Mr. Spicer*, of *Mount Wear*.

The ancient Nunnery of *Polesloe*, was situated in a detached part of this parish, a mile and half north of the church; it was founded by *Bishop Brewer*, in the year 1236, who endowed it with the manor of *Polesloe*, and other lands.

At the dissolution, the house and manor were granted to *Sir Arthur Champernowne*, who exchanged it for *Dartington*; it was then purchased by *John Peter*, Esq. merchant, of *Exeter*, in whose family it continued for several descents; it became next the property of the *Izacks*; and now belongs to *Montague Parker*, Esq.

There are still some remains of the ancient building, particularly the west end, which, though patched up with modern repairs, retains strong vestiges of its gothic state: the principal entrance was through a pointed arch, now walled up.

The chapel was demolished by *Colonel Sebastian Izacke*, and its scite is not to be ascertained. The manor is, at present, divided into different farms, whose houses, garden walls, &c. clothed with ivy, have a ruinous and antique appearance

appearance.—There are several gentlemen's seats in the detached parts of this parish, the principal of which, are the following:

CHAP. VI.

Heavitree

*Coaver*, near *Mount Radford*, is a small neat house, pleasantly situated on the *Topsham* road, late the residence of *John Stephens*, Esq.

*Bellair*, contiguous to *Coaver*, is a neat villa, belonging to the *Rev. Mr. Rhodes*; both of these houses have pleasant lawns, enriched with plantations of trees and shrubs, and extensive prospects.

*Northbrook*, the property of *Daniel Hamilton*, of *Exeter*, Esq. is a neat mansion, greatly improved by its present owner, it is beautifully situated in an extensive paddock, one side of which is bounded by a branch of the river *Exe*; and through the grounds, the brook from *Wonford* meanders in view of the house.

*Stokehill-House*, a neat modern villa, belonging to *Joseph Sanders*, of *Exeter*, Esq. is delightfully situated about half a mile N. E. of the City; it commands a fine prospect of the estuary of the *Exe*, and the surrounding country: from a barren waste, overrun with furze and fern, the proprietor has greatly improved the surrounding lands, and rendered them fruitful and pleasant.

*Rusham*, (anciently named *Dunscumb*, from the British *Dunum*, a hill and *Comb*, a valley,) is a large farm on the heights of *Stoke*, anciently belonging to the priory of *St. Nicholas*, in *Exeter*; it is now the property of the Marchioness of *Donnegal*, and rented by *Mr. John Land*, of *Exeter*. From different parts of this estate, are very extensive prospects, the ground undulating from lofty hills to deep vallies, and a fine spring of water meandering through the lower grounds, renders it capable of great improvement.

*Ringswell*, lies to the east of *Heavitree* village, near the place where lately stood the gallows; here was, formerly, a large mansion, granted in the reign of *Henry the III.* by *Robert de Mandeville*, to *Nicholas Gervaise*, of *Exeter*, whose son, *Sir Walter Gervaise*, gave it in marriage, with his daughter *Alice*, to *Sir William Speke*. The said *Sir W. Speke*, with the consent of his wife, granted the same to *Sir John Wiger*, of *Creedy-Wiger*, reserving to himself and heirs 5*l.* yearly rent.—Part of this manor afterwards became the property of the *Prydhams*, of *Exeter*, and by an heiress of the *Prydhams* came to the *Whitings*. It belongs at present to *Edward Cotsford*, Esq. who purchased it of *Gregory Jackson*, of *Exeter*, Esq.

K k k 2

Madford,



## CHAP. VI.

Heavitree

*Madford*, situate west of *Heavitree church*, is the remains of an ancient mansion, the residence of *Ralph de Basco*, in the reign of *Henry the III.* Afterwards it was the seat of *Lord Dinham*, from whom it descended to *Sir George Smith*, who erected a spacious house here; (the remains of which are now converted to a farm-house.) From the *Smiths*, it became the property of *Phineas Clarke*, of *Exeter*, Esq. on whose decease it came, by marriage, to *William Mackworth Pread*, Esq. who sold it to the late *John Stephens*, of *Coover*, Esq.

*Wippen*, anciently written *Wapen*, is a hamlet and manor, at the N. E. extremity of the parish: it has long been in the possession of the family of the *Barnfields*, of *Pottimara*, and is now the property of *Sir Charles Barnfield*, Bart.

## APPENDIX.

*An Acte for the Enlarging the liberties of the  
Citie of Excester, 2d and 3d Edward VI.*

Humbly sheweth unto your mooste excellent Majestie  
your obedient and loving subjects the Mayo Bayliffs and  
Comynaltie of your Citie of Excester that where of late so-  
veraigne lord of famous and mooste worthie Memorie Kinge  
Henry the xiiij Father yor. Highnes by his mooste gracious  
Lres Patents under his great Seccalle of Englande bearinge  
date the xxiiij daye off Auguste in xxxth yere of his mooste  
noble soveraigne for the Love Zealle and ffavor. whiche he have  
towards his lovinge subjects the Mayors Baylyffs Comyn-  
altie of his sayde Citie of Excester and also towards the  
sayde Citie did not onely ratyfie and confirme all such  
grantes as were by hym or any of his noble pdecessors  
gyven and granted unto the Mayors Bayliffs and Comynaltie  
of the sayde Citie or any of the Inhabitants therof But  
also by his sayde Lres Patents of a more larger benyvolence  
did erecte ordeyne constitute and make the sayde Citie to be  
a Countye in yt selfe clearely seperated and devyded from  
the Countye of Devon and for the better mayntenance of the  
same did gyve and graunte unto the sayde Mayor. Bayliffs  
and Comynaltie and to their successors dyvers and sundrye  
Jurysdiccyons pcheamynences liberties ffraunchises and  
Privileges to be exerceysed and within the sayde Countie of  
the sayde Citie of Excester as by the saide Lres Patent more  
playnly yt doth and maye appeare And forasmuche as it is  
nowe doubtfull where and howe farr the antient boundes  
and lymitts of the lybties of the saide Cytie doth extende  
and for lacke of certen knowledge and lymittacon thereof  
ryseth not onely at dyvers tymes varyaunce betweene the  
officers of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Excester  
and the sheriffe and the officers of the sayde Countye of  
Devon and the Byshoppe of Excester and the Dean and  
Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Saynte Peter of Excester  
and their Mynysters for and concernynge the servynge and  
excutynge of processe within certain places surmised by the  
sayde

## Appendix

sayde Mayor Bayliffs and Comynaltie of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter to be within the lymitts and boundes of the saide Countye of the saide Citie & denyed by the sayde Sheriffe of the sayde Countye of Devon and the sayde Byshoppe Deane and Chapter and their Officers to be within anye of the Boundes of the saide Countye of the saide Citie but also th. Inhabitants of divers Houses and Habitations being sett and buylded in certain Places within the sayde Cytie and Suburbes of the same and in the confyne and border of bothe the sayde Countyes callinge and naminge themselves for the Maintenance of their unthrifistic rule which they kepe there some tyme when for there purpose yt so best serveth to be von of the sayd Countyes and some tyme of the other and by occasion thereof in and to these Howses resorte (as it were to a Den and refuge for unthrifities Innumorab sortes of dyvers Carders Nyghte Watchers Vagabonds Thieves Bawdes Hores and suche other yvell and lewde psons whiche their doo lorke abyde and escape unpunished by reason that the lymitts of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie are unknowne not onely to the great Corrupcon of prentyses Servaunts and Children broughte uppe within the sayde Citie to the great annoyance of the sayde Citie and of the Inhabitants of the same.—But also to the great Inquietacon and disturbance of other Quarters thereabout which is to the greate mayntenance boldenyng and increase of theves robbers harlots, bawdes and sundrye Vagaboundes which things within shorte tyme will be a greate Cause of rewin and decaye of your gracys sayde Citie and to the Oppression and greate disquietinge of the sayde Citie and the whole Countreye thereabout yf remedye be not provided For Reformacyon whereof yf may please youre mooste excellent Majesty wt. and by the Assent of Lordes Spuall and Temporall and the Commons in this present Parlyment assembled and by the Authoritie of the same that the boundes and lymitts hereafter enewing may be hadde reputed and taken for the undoughted lymitts devysyon and boundes betwene the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter taken for no parte nor parcell of the sayde Countye of Devon. but clearlye seperated from the sayde County of Devon evermore withoute question color. doute or ambyguytie which boundes of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie as well within the walles of the sayde Citie as withoute shall be and begynne as hereafter followeth *that is to saye firste* at and from the Estegate of the sayde Citie together with all the wholle precynte and Circuyte of the Parrishe off Saynte Sydwel withoute the sayde Estegate, and with all the Inhabitaunts and soyle of the

the same Parishes unto the Sowthegate of the same Citie with all the wholle Circuyte and preyncte of the Parrishe of the Trynytie there and with all the Inhabitaunts and soyle of the same Parrishe withoute the sayde Southegate and at and from the sayde Southegate with the whole Cyrcuyte and Precyncte of the sayde wholle Parrishe of the Trynytie aforesayde unto the Westegate of the sayde Cytie together with all the whole Circuyts and p'cinte of the Parrishes of Saynte Edmondes and Saynte Marye Stappes unto the grete Ryver of Exe and with all the Inhabitaunts and Soyle within the sayde Parrishes unto the grete River of Exe and withoute the sayde West Gate and at and from the sayde West Gate with the Cyrcuyte of the saide wholle Parrishes of Saynte Edmondes and Saynte Mary Stappes as before is sayde unto the Northegate of the sayde Citie together with the Cyrcuyte and precyncte of the whole Parrishe of Saynte David, called Saynte David is Downe, without the Northegate of the sayde Citie and with all the Inhabitaunts and Soile within the sayde Parrishe of Saynte David is Downe, and at and from the sayde Northegate with the Cyrcuyte and precyncte of the same whole Parrishe of Saynte David is downe unto the Estegate aforesayde,—And that also by the Authoritie aforesaide yt maye be Enacted that all manner of Howses Lands Tenements Possions Grounds and Soyle as well within the Walls of the sayde Citie and Suburbs of the same as also all Howses Lands Tenements Groundes and Soyle sette layinge and beinge within the Parrishes afore lymytted and expressed and every of theym shall be at all tyme and tymes from hensforthe taken accepted, reputed knowne and accompted to be parcell of and within the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter and to be no parte nor parcell of the sayde Countye of Devon and that yt may be fferder enacted by the Authoritie aforesayde that as well the Sheriffe of the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter for the tyme being his Deputies and Mynisters as also the Officers and Mynisters of the sayde Mayor Bayliffe and Constable of the sayde Citie of Exceter and every of them for the Tyme beinge shall and may lawfullye at all tyme and tymes from hensforthe execute and serve within the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Exceter all and all manner of Wryttes Precepts and Proceses to them or any of them directed or delyvered as well from the Kings Majesty his heirs or Successors or from any of his Justices as also from the sayde Mayor, Bayliffs and Comynalties or their Successors or any other their Officers or any of them in suche manner and forme as the sheriffs of the sayde Countye of Devon Justices of Peace or other the Kinges Officers

**Appendix** Officers or Mynisters of the sayde Countye of Devon myght have lawfully done before the makinge of this Acte and Statute: And furder to doo and execute all and everye other lawfull Aote and Things within the sayde Countye of the sayde Citie of Excester in as ample and large manner as the Sherriffe of the sayde Countye of Devon Justices of Peace or other the Kinges Officers or Mynisters of the said Countye of Devon mighte have lawfullye don before the makinge of this Aote. *Provided* allwayes that the Castell commonly called the Castell of Excester and the Soyle of the same beinge within the Walles of the said Castell and also the Common Gayle of the sayde Countye of Devon nye adjoininge to the said Castell and the Messyon House of the same Gayle with all such and singler other Howses and Byldings belonging to the same shall not be accepted or taken to be within the Citie of Excester nor of any thereof but shall be at all accepted reputed adjudged and demyd to be within and parcell of the sayde Countye of Devon any thing in this Aote moneyoned resyted or expressed to the contrary notwithstandinge. *Provided* also that this Acte nor any thinge therein conteyned shall in any wise extend or be prejudicall or hurtfull to the Kinge his Heires or Successors; or to the Ryghte Noble Prince Edward Duke of Somsett or to any of his Heires or to the sayde Bysshoppe of Excester or his Successours or the Deane and Chapter of Excester and their Successours or to any of them or to any other Person or Persones their Heires or Successours for or concerning any Liberties Privileges Courtes Lectes Fraunchises Profits prior to any Proces Judgment and Ejectmenter to bee had in any Action or Sute now depending or concerning the Limits and Boundes aforesayde excepted by this Acte to bee off the sayde Countye of the Citie of Excester but that they and everye of them shall and may lawfullye have hold use take exercise and enioye all and syngler suche liberties privileges Courtes Lectes Fraunchises Profitts and all other Commodities and everye of them whatsoever in suche lyke manner forme and Condition as they or any of them lawfully had held occupied or enioyed the same or any of them before the makinge of this Acte, and in such manner and forme as if this Acte had never been made any thinge before in this Acte to the contrary notwithstandinge. *Provided* allwayes and beyt furder Enacted that as well all and singler Covenants Grante Coposicons Agreements Recognisances and Bonds Obligatory had made or acknowledged by the Mayer Bayliffe and Comalties of the sayde Citie of Excester or any of them unto the Bysshoppe Deane and Chapter of the Cathedral Churche of Excester or any

any of them as also all and singler such Covenants Graunts Coposicons Agreements Recognisaunces and Bonds Obligatorie had made or knowledged by the sayde Bysshoppe Deane and Chapiter or any of them to the sayde Mayor Bayliffs and Comaltie or any of them for or concerninge any other thyng or thyngs then is expressed or mencyned in this Acte shall stande and be to all Intents and Purposes in effectte force and strengeth as they weare before the makynge of this Acte and as though this Acte had never been had or made any thinge conteyned in this Acte to the contrarye in anywise notwithstandinge.

GEORGE ROSE, Cler. Parliamenter.

Examined with the Original Record at the Parliament-Office this 5th Day of Oct. 1799 by us

FENWICK WILLIAM FEARY,  
J. PACEY.

*Translation of the monkish verse, on an ancient monument  
in the Wynard's Chapel, (see page 383.)*

May these new walls, which boast their founder's name,  
To distant times his piety proclaim!  
Not for the rich his many cells appear,  
Age, sickness, penury, find shelter here.  
To HIM whose glory fills the eternal throne,  
The rising fane he consecrates alone.  
A lasting fabrick, nor endow'd in vain,  
It clears, we trust, his soul from earthly stain.  
Wynard, all hail! though now to us deny'd,  
Recording magistrate, our city's pride,  
Yet thy bright name, not to these walls confin'd,  
Thy country graces, dignifies mankind.

*Mr. Jenkins* was led to believe, that the screen (see page 289) which supports the Organ and divides the Choir from the body of the Cathedral, was erected in the time of King James I. from the circumstance of a *Rose* and a *Thistle* appearing in the ornamental parts thereof. But whoever examines this screen attentively, will easily discover, that they were placed there after it was erected; and are of clumsy workmanship, when compared with the elegant foliage which surrounds them. By the style of architecture, (the arches being very similar to that of Bishop *Stapledon's* monument,) I suppose this screen was erected in the time of *Edward the II.* or *III.*

W. D.



# CONTENTS.

---

## CHAPTER I.

	Page
<i>Ancient History and Government of the City; from the Invasion of the Romans to the Norman Conquest, .....</i>	1

## CHAPTER II.

<i>From the Norman Conquest to the End of the Reign of King Henry VIII. ....</i>	26
<i>Earls of Devon; from the Norman Conquest to the Reformation, .....</i>	108
<i>Dukes of Exeter to the Reformation, .....</i>	110

## CHAPTER III.

<i>From the Death of King Henry VIII. to the Accession of King Charles II. ....</i>	112
<i>Charter of the City, .....</i>	137

## CHAPTER IV.

<i>From the Accession of King Charles II. to the 45th of King George III. ....</i>	173
--	-----

## CHAPTER V.

<i>Ecclesiastical History—Religion of the Ancient Britons, .....</i>	243
<i>Bishops of Devon, .....</i>	247

## CHAPTER VI.

<i>General Description, .....</i>	276
<i>Rougemont Castle, .....</i>	278
<i>The Cathedral, 281—its Government, .....</i>	293
<i>present Members, &amp;c. ....</i>	310



# CONTENTS.

## PAROCHIAL DESCRIPTION.

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Precinct of the Close, .....</i>	312
<i>Parish of St. Martin, .....</i>	316
<i>St. Pancras, .....</i>	317
<i>St. Stephen, .....</i>	320
<i>Precinct of Bedford, .....</i>	323
<i>Parish of Allhallows, Goldsmith's-street, .....</i>	324
<i>St. Lawrence, .....</i>	327
<i>Precinct of Bradninch, .....</i>	341
<i>Parish of St. Sidwell, .....</i>	341
<i>St. David, .....</i>	353
<i>St. Paul, .....</i>	360
<i>St. Kerian, .....</i>	364
<i>St. Petrock, .....</i>	365
<i>St. Mary Major, .....</i>	367
<i>St. Mary Arches, .....</i>	389
<i>The Holy Trinity, .....</i>	376
<i>St. Olave, .....</i>	395
<i>St. John, .....</i>	399
<i>Allhallows on the Walls, .....</i>	403
<i>St. Edmund, .....</i>	406
<i>General Benefactions, .....</i>	408

## PARISHES ADJACENT EXETER.

<i>Parish of St. Thomas the Apostle, .....</i>	431
<i>St. Leonard, .....</i>	438
<i>Heavitree, .....</i>	441
<i>Appendix, .....</i>	241 & 447

F I N I S.

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## PLATES.

Gateway of Rougemont Castle <i>to face the Title</i>	Page
Map of Exeter . . . . .	3
Danmonia Romana . . . . .	6
Saxon Danmonia . . . . .	16
Anglo Saxon Coins, Ancient Cannon, &c. . . . .	19
West View of the old Conduit . . . . .	214
View of the old Exe Bridge . . . . .	216
Two Views of Rougemont Castle . . . . .	278
Plan of Rougemont Castle . . . . .	279
Ichnography of the Cathedral . . . . .	282
Ancient Guildhall in Waterbeer-street . . . . .	365
Coins found in Waterbeer-street, Ancient Date, &c. . . . .	376

## ERRATA.

- 197 *f* Chancellor, *r* *Sub-Chanter*, l 32  
 220 *f* Charles Fanshawe, Esq. *r* *Stephen Hawtrey, Esq.* l 30  
 222 *f* for, *r* *of*, l 23  
 251 &c. *f* lays, *r* *lies*, l 28  
 251 *f* deep, *r* *deeply*, l 39  
 255 *f* Hooker, *r* *Hoker*, in the note  
 255 *f* Dean Mills, *r* *Milles*, do.  
 258 *f* and legacies, *r* *and in legacies*, l 33  
 263 &c. *f* Isaac, *r* *Isacke*, last line  
 263 *f* Redman, *r* *Redmain*, l 12 & side note  
 274 *f* Brother, *r* *Uncle*, l 30  
 282 *f* by every, *r* *by almost every*, l 15  
 286 *f* Robert Lym, *r* *Robert Lyen*, l 5  
 290 *f* Rhombus, *r* *Square*, l 4  
 295 *f* Bristol to Plymouth, *r* *London to Pentillie*,  
     *in Cornwall*, l 4  
 295 dele Canon, in the side note  
 302 *f* Possuit, *r* *Posuit*, l 17  
 310 *f* Precentor Gordon, B. D. *r* *A. M.* l 22  
 319 *f* Father, *r* *Uncle*, l 23  
 339 *f* Edward, *r* *Arthur*, last line  
 340 *f* Sir Amias, *r* *Sir Copplesstone*, l 18  
 349 *f* semicircular, *r* *circular*, l 31  
 349 *f* Martyrs, *r* *Marys*, l 3 of note  
 350 *f* Burig, *r* *Byrig*, l 40  
 351 &c. *f* laying, *r* *lying*, l 9  
 389 *f* pestilences, *r* *penitence*, l 1  
 397 *f* injudicially, *r* *injudiciously*, l 11















